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THIRD SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

15TH TO 18TH, 20TH, 21ST, 23RD TO 25TH, 27TH, 28TH AND 30TH MARCH 1939

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HIRD SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935

Vol. XI—Nos. 1 to 12.

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

His Excellency LORD ERSKINE, G.C.I.E.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

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2 The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM, Minister in charge of the Revenue Department.

3 The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN, Minister in charge of the Public Works Department.

4 The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN, Minister in charge of the Law Department.

5 The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN, Minister in charge of the Public Health Department.

6 The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI, Minister in charge of the Agriculture and Rural Development Department.

7 The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI, Minister in charge of the Industries and Labour Department.

8 The Hon. Sri S. RAMANATHAN, Minister in charge of Administration Reports and Public Information Department.

9 The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI, Minister in charge of the Local Administration Department.

0 The Hon. Sri C. J. VARKEY, Minister in charge of the Education Department.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI.

Deputy Speaker.

MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI.

Panel of Chairmen.

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2 SRI VEMULA KURMAYYA.
3 MRS. KHADIJA YAKUB HASAN.
4 SRI K. BHASHYAM AYYANGAR.

Secretary.

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary.

SRI M. SURYA RAO, B.A., B.L.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935.

Wednesday, 15th March 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Option of using either the Urdu or the Devanagari script in the third-class language test in Hindustani for Local Fund Assistant Engineers.

* 853 *Q.*—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a candidate appearing for the third-class language test in Hindustani prescribed in sub-rule (2) of rule 7 of the rules framed for the Madras Local Fund Assistant Engineers' Service is permitted to use the Urdu or Devanagari script at his option; and

(*b*) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to make the instructions known for the guidance of the examiners and the candidates?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) & (*b*) This is purely an oral test and therefore the question of allowing option to the candidates to use the Urdu or the Devanagari script has not arisen."

Disbandment of the Madras Regiments.

* 854 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras Government protested at the inequity of disbanding the Madras Regiments at any time;

(*b*) what the nature of the protest was; and

(*c*) the reply or replies received by this Government from the Central Government?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (a) to (c) The Madras Government have on more than one occasion called attention to the question and strongly pressed for the revival of recruitment in this Province. The Government are not at liberty to disclose details of their correspondence on the subject with the Government of India. The correspondence is all marked confidential. But it is unnecessary to put the papers on the table. The case has been very ably put forward from time to time, though not successfully."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether there is any hope of success at present?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I cannot guess, Sir."

Consideration by Government of the resolutions passed at the recent Lawyers' Conference at Bezwada.

* 855 Q.—SRI K. V. NARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the resolutions passed at the recent Lawyers' Conference held at Bezwada under the presidency of Sir M. Venkatasubba Rao have been communicated to the Government; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether the Government have considered them?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) The question does not arise."

Land revenue assessment in East Godavari on consolidated wet lands according to tarams.

* 856 Q.—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the rates of land revenue assessment in East Godavari on consolidated wet lands according to tarams;

(b) the extent of land so taxed under each taram rate;

(c) the total income from such lands according to the last settlement; and

(d) the rate at which remission was granted during the last fasli and the total amount involved?

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—(Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (a) & (b) The rates of wet assessment and the extent of single crop wet lands in the East Godavari district under each rate at the last resettlement were as follows:—

Rate per acre. RS.	A.	P.		Extent. ACS.
14	4	0	and above	9,820·02
13	8	0	do.	3,354·04
11	14	0	do.	39,464·87
10	10	0	do.	41,073·57
10	1	0	do.	1,428·76
9	8	0	do.	22,885·68
9	3	0	do.	4,373·16
8	4	0	do.	15,785·02
7	11	0	do.	2,531·26
7	2	0	do.	8,485·12
6	13	0	do.	5,9[illegible]6·88
6	4	0	do.	1,286·58
5	15	0	do.	6,953·73
5	4	0	do.	13,364·71
4	12	0	do.	3,275·97
4	7	0	do.	4,492·36
4	2	0	do.	1,197·61
3	14	0	do.	5,495·82
3	0	0	do.	5,779·13
2	11	0	do.	237·56
2	6	0	do.	2,241·40
1	15	0	do.	404·60

" (c) The total wet assessment (net) was Rs. 15,89,502.

" (d) The land revenue concessions granted for wet lands in the East Godavari district in fasli 1347 took the form of the cancellation of the percentage enhancements imposed at resettlement. The Government have no information regarding the amount of remission granted in respect of wet lands only. The total amount involved in the cancellation in fasli 1347 of percentage enhancements in the East Godavari district in connexion with the general land revenue concessions was Rs. 3·76 lakhs."

MR. SPEAKER:—" When such long tables of figures have to be given in answer by the Government, they may lay them on the table instead of taking up so much of the time of the House in reading statistics."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Yes, Sir."

Construction of an embankment in Thunga-Thampara village in Patapatnam taluk.

* 857 *Q.*—SRI C. NARASIMHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in the recent floods of the Vamsadhara, the river changed its course at Thunga-Thampara, a village in Patapatnam taluk and completely damaged many houses in the village and sand-cast many lands also;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there is imminent danger of the whole village being washed away on account of the changed course of the river unless a strong embankment is raised; and

(*c*) what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—"(*a*) The river did change its course for some distance and many houses were damaged in Thunga-Thampara and some lands were sand-cast.

"(*b*) A report will be called for.

"(*c*) The village and the river at that portion are situated in a zamindari village and for that reason the officers of the Government thought at the time of the floods it was a matter between the zamindar and the inamdar and the ryots. However, the matter will be considered after the report is received."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether the District Administrative Conference of Vizagapatam at which the Collector presided, resolved in respect of this matter to request the Government that urgent steps be taken to prevent recurrence of damage to banks and villages?"

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"There is no information ready at present."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"May I ask, Sir, whether in spite of all these, the District Collector did not visit the affected areas?"

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I have no such information."

Alleged irregular attachment of second crop of the peasants of Veliprom, Ernad.

* 858 *Q.*—MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any action in the matter of complaints from the peasants of Veliprom, Ernad, with regard to the attachment of their second crop;

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(b) whether it is a fact that it was found on enquiry that revenue for which attachment was made, was due from the adhikari of the amsam; if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the adhikari; and

(c) what steps have heen or are being taken to allow the cultivating tenant to share fully the benefit of revenue remissions?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (a) *to* (c) The Government have called for a report."

Re-employment of the retrenched employees of the Hydro-Electric and Public Works departments at Mettur in the Papanasam works.

* 859 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the retrenchment in the number of the employees in the workshop of the Hydro-Electric department at Mettur is being proceeded with for the last one month;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether it is due to want of work;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the orders which used to be executed by these retrenched employees are being placed on contract elsewhere; and

(d) whether the Government will absorb the retrenched employees of the Mettur Public Works department and the Hydro-Electric Works department in the Papanasam works?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) There was some retrenchment in the Mettur workshops from July to November 1938, but all the retrenched men were subsequently re-employed except five carpenters for whom work was not available.

" (b) Due to restriction of output caused by the instructions given by the Government to transfer to the Madras Public Works Workshops as much work as possible, which could be economically undertaken by them.

" (c) A certain amonnt of work was executed elsewhere as it was found impracticable and uneconomical to transfer it to the Madras workshops and tbe Mettur workshops could not undertake it.

" (d) Not necessary as the Mettur workshops are again operating at normal capacity."

Measures to prevent the frequent floods in the Vamsadhara, Nagavalli and other smaller rivers in the Vizagapatam district.

* 860 *Q.*—SRI C. NARASIMHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government will cause early investigation to be made into the causes for frequent floods in the Vamsadhara, Nagavalli and other smaller rivers in the Vizagapatam district with a view to concerting measures for preventing such floods?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Floods are due to natural causes. As regards prevention of damage by floods the policy of the Government is that except in places where there are flood banks or other Government property which are likely to be endangered by neglect of marginal protective works, the Government do not undertake any conservancy work for the protection of river-margins. It is the duty of the ryots to carry out such flood protective works as may be necessary and maintain them. The Government do not propose to carry out any investigation as suggested in the question. In the present case, the Government have sanctioned a special staff for attending to the repairs of tanks and channels damaged by the floods."

Construction of an anicut across the river Cheyyar in Tandarai village, Cheyyar taluk.

* 861 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have considered the desirability of constructing an anicut in Tandarai village in Cheyyar taluk, across the river Cheyyar?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The Chief Engineer (Irrigation) has generally examined the proposal. The scheme cannot be taken up until the problem of the lower riparian interests has been solved. This is under examination."

Number of motor vehicles worked by petrol in 1937–38.

* 862 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state the number of motor cars, buses, and other vehicles worked by petrol in the Province during 1937–38 registered under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1931?

AHMAD THAMBI MUHAMMAD MOHIDEEN MARACAIR SAHIB BAHADUR (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"A statement[a] showing

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 86 infra.

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the number of motor vehicles which used the public roads in this Province during the last quarter of 1937–38 is laid on the table."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know the amount of fees collected? "

AHMAD THAMBI MUHAMMAD MOHIDEEN MARACAIR SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Defunct Pallipat Panchayat Court, Tiruttani taluk, Chittoor district.

* 863 Q.—Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Pallipat Panchayat Court in Tiruttani taluk, Chittoor district, is not functioning for the last one and a half years;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the reasons therefor are;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Echambadi Malavada was originally ordered to be included in the abovesaid panchayat court by the Government;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the caste Hindus of the village of Pallipat petitioned to the Collector of Chittoor district to exclude their area from the jurisdiction of the abovesaid panchayat court; and

(*e*) if so, what orders the Collector passed thereon?

AHMAD THAMBI MUHAMMAD MOHIDEEN MARACAIR SAHIB Bahadur (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" (*a*) The Government have no information.

" (*b*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*), the question does not arise.

" (*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*d*) The Government have no information.

" (*e*) In view of the answer to clause (*d*), the question does not arise."

Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU :—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information, Sir? "

AHMAD THAMBI MUHAMMAD MOHIDEEN MARACAIR SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir."

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Abolition of District Munsif's Courts in Ramnad district.

* 864 *Q.*—Sri Muthu Kr. Ar. Kr. ARUNACHALAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to abolish any of the District Munsif's Courts in Ramnad district;

(*b*) if so, what they are;

(*c*) what the reasons for their abolition are;

(*d*) whether the Government have called for opinions on the matter; if so, from whom; and

(*e*) whether the Government will consider the desirability of consulting the officers and the bar associations concerned before coming to a decision?

AHMAD THAMBI MUHAMMAD MOHIDEEN MARACAIR SAHIB Bahadur (*Parliamentary Secretary*) on behalf of the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) *to* (*e*) Do not arise."

Measures to combat malaria in Nellore district.

* 865 *Q.*—Sri V. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Kodur and the neighbouring villages in the Nellore district have been affected by malaria for the last two years;

(*b*) the number of attacks and deaths from malaria in that region during 1937–38; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken upon the report of the Rockfeller Foundation Malaria Investigation Committee, or independently to root out the epidemic from this area?

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A copy [a] of the report of the Director of Public Health on the subject is laid on the table."

Proposal to abolish the classification of the general and paying wards in the General Hospital, Madras.

* 866 *Q.*—Sri N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether general and paying wards in the General Hospital, Madras, are classified as European and Indian; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to discontinue such a classification of the wards?

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 86–89 infra.

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) Does not arise."

Number of applications filed till 30th September 1938 under section 15 (4) of the Madras Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act, 1938.

* 867 *Q.*—SRI P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state how many applications under section 15 (4) of the Madras Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act, 1938, were filed in all the courts in the Province till the 30th of September 1938?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Twenty thousand and seventeen applications."

Improvement of forests by planting fruit-bearing and other remunerative trees.

* 868 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any fruit-bearing and remunerative trees are being planted for improvement of the forests;

(*b*) if so, the various kinds of trees that are being planted and the places where they are planted;

(*c*) whether that policy is adopted in the Kodiakadu forest in the Tanjore district; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) A statement [a] giving the information is placed on the table of the House.

" (*c*) & (*d*) It is not possible to take similar measures in Kodiakadu reserve forest, as the soil here is sandy and porous and devoid of much humus."

Objections to the deforestation of the Singampatti hills in the Western Ghats.

* 869 *Q.*—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that numerous memorials have been sent to the Government regarding deforestation in the Singampatti zamindari forests in the Western Ghats;

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the question of taking over under its control all forests that command the sources of rivers;

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 90 infra.

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(c) the policy of the Government as to the paramount need to promote afforestation in the interests of public irrigation in the Province; and

(d) what the final order passed by the Government is on the memorials regarding deforestation of Singampatti hills?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a) & (d) The Hon'ble Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 733 on 23rd February 1939.

"(b) The answer is in the negative.

"(c) The hon. Member apparently refers to private forests. The Government have certain powers of control over forests and waste lands not at their disposal, and these are indicated in sections 29 to 31 of the Madras Forest Act, 1882. Action can be taken under these sections if the Government find that in the interest of the maintenance of water-supply in rivers and tanks, etc., it is necessary to prohibit or regulate large disafforestation of private forests."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"Will the Government also consider, while they are considering the question of private forests the serious condition of disafforestation in their own forests?"

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"The matter has already been taken into account by the Government."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister is considering the condition of the Gundur valley of the Kollegal taluk?"

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"It will be considered, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I ask whether it is a fact that the Singampatti forests are under the management of the Court of Wards? Last time when the Hon. Minister was answering a similar question he said something to that effect."

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"The Singampatti forests are under the management of the Court of Wards."

Proposal for the entertainment of apprentices in Government workshops and printing presses on the results of competitive examinations and for giving preference to candidates holding diplomas of the Government School of Technology.

* 870 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is provision for entertainment of apprentices in the Government workshops, Government printing press, etc.;

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(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the regulations governing such entertainment are;

(*c*) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for admitting apprentices in their workshops, Government printing press, etc., after holding a competitive examination;

(*d*) whether the diplomas granted by the Government School of Technology have been recognized for purposes of employment in Government concerns including the Government Press;

(*e*) whether representations have been received from passed candidates that preference should be shown to them in regard to appointments in the Government concerns; and

(*f*) whether he will place the relevant orders on the subject on the table of the House?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The regulations relating to the entertainment of apprentices in the Industrial Engineering Workshop, Public Works Workshops at Madras, Bezwada and Dowlaishwaram and in the Government Press, Madras, are contained in G.Os. No. Press 1784, Development, dated 10th October 1936, No. 1974, P.W.D. (General), dated 24th August 1936, and No. 777, Finance, dated 5th November 1927, respectively. Copies of these orders are available in the library of the Legislature for reference.

" (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*d*) Diplomas granted by the School of Technology have been recognized for appointment to the post of foreman, Public Works Workshop, Madras. There is no provision to this effect in the statutory rules prescribed for the Government Press Service or the Madras Printing Service.

"(*e*) & (*f*) Yes. These representations are under the consideration of the Director of Industries and Commerce. The Government are awaiting his report."

Proposal for conducting a geological survey of underground water in the Ceded districts.

* 871 *Q.*—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether at any time an experimental survey of underground water was carried out in any portion of the Ceded districts by the Department of Industries;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the results of such survey are;

(c) whether local bodies and private gentlemen have been induced to utilize the bore-holes to the best advantage;

(d) how many of the bore-holes are now in actual use;

(e) whether in addition, any demonstration wells have been sunk by the Department of Industries;

(f) whether a geological survey to find out underground streams was ever attempted, and whether the need for a survey has been considered;

(g) whether any representation urging the need for a geological survey has been received; and

(h) whether he will be pleased to place the concerned papers on the table of the House?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) Yes. In the Bellary firka of the Bellary district.

" (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 14 of the Industrial Engineer's report on the Experimental Survey of underground water in the Bellary firka, Bellary district, contained in G.O. No. 1984, Development, dated 29th October 1930, copy of which is available in the library of the Legislature.

" (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (d) Information has been called for.

" (e) The answer is in the negative.

" (f) No such survey has yet been attempted. The need for such a survey is under consideration.

" (g) Yes.

" (h) A copy [a] of the representation received from Sri Suryanarayana Rao of the Servants of India Society is placed on the table of the House."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" May I know what the result is of the experiments already made? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" Notice, Sir."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether similar experiments will be carried out in other areas of the Ceded districts also? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" The suggestion will be considered."

Ameliorative measures, if any, proposed by Government for the hill tribes.

* 872 Q.—SRI H. B. ARI GOWDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to place on the table a report regarding any ameliorative measures proposed by Government, for the hill tribes?

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 91 infra.

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SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"An account of the ameliorative work done by the Government is given in paragraphs 172 to 180 of the Administration Report of the Forest Department for 1937–38 and in the paragraphs dealing with 'Depressed Classes' in the Administrative Report of the Labour Department for 1937–38. The question of eradicating the Gothi system of labour prevailing in certain parts of the Agency is also under consideration."

Alleged assault on the headmaster of the Board Boys' School, Annavasal, Sivaganga taluk, by the Deputy Inspector of Schools.

* 873 *Q.*—SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the headmaster, Board Boys' School, Annavasal, Sivaganga taluk, Ramnad district, was assaulted and punched on the face while on duty by the Deputy Inspector of Schools during his inspection on 12th September 1938;

(*b*) whether a complaint was made by the headmaster to the District Board President and the District Educational Officer, Ramnad;

(*c*) whether any enquiry was held by the authorities concerned; and

(*d*) if so, what the result of the enquiry is and the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"(*a*) Such an allegation has been made.

"(*b*) Yes.

"(*c*) An enquiry is being held.

"(*d*) No report has yet been received."

Incorporation of the spirit of the Wardha Scheme of education in the existing curriculum of studies in schools.

* 874 *Q.*—SRI R. S. MANIKKAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps have been taken for the educational reorganization in the Province on the lines of the Wardha Scheme; and

(*b*) whether steps have been taken to incorporate the spirit of the Wardha Scheme in the existing curriculum of studies in the elementary school stage?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The existing curricula of studies and syllabuses in elementary schools are being modified to implement the spirit of the Wardha Scheme."

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SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU :—" May I ask whether the Government are proposing to introduce this Wardha Scheme of education in all the elementary schools in the Province? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" No, Sir. It is expecting the impossible."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU :—" May I ask whether it is proposed to introduce the system at least in some of the schools as an experimental measure? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" We must get at the teachers first before we start the teaching."

Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar rose.

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask how long it will take for the Government to introduce the Wardha Scheme? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar will put the supplementary question."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the revised curriculum of elementary education which is now under the consideration of the Government will be ready in time to be put into effect after the summer recess? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" May I ask whether the syllabus which is being got ready will be published by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" Yes, Sir, by the department in the usual course."

SRI E. KANNAN :—" May I ask what steps the Government are taking to get the necessary teachers? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" We propose to start training schools to train teachers under the Scheme."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" May I know whether the Government propose to have the necessary teachers' training schools opened during this summer? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" No, Sir. Summer is the time for teachers to take rest."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know whether there is any scheme adopted by the Government for giving proper training to the teachers? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" Yes, the scheme is under consideration."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the scheme which is now under the consideration of the Government will be published in sufficient time for public criticism? "

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THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" I thought the question was about the scheme for the training of teachers; and I have said that the scheme is getting ready."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" What does the Hon. Minister think about the merits of the Wardha Scheme? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" I submit that this question does not arise out of the original question, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Alleged defective workmanship in the construction of the Trichinopoly-Srirangam bridge and the cement-concrete road over it.

257 *Q.*—SRI R. MARUTHAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any intention to construct a new bridge across the Cauvery at the Trichinopoly-Srirangam points as the existing remodelled and reconstruction bridge on the then foundation was reported to be not fit for traffic after 1940;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that cracks appeared only very recently and patch works were being done; and

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that even the cement concerte road laid over the bridge only a year ago has caused ruts to appear; who was responsible for this state of things whether there was a conflict between the District Board Engineer and the contractor over the road surface being badly laid whether the Government will direct the Chief Engineer to examine the road surface and make necessary report as to the strength of the road?

A.—(*a*) There has been no report from any competent authority to the effect that the bridge will not be fit for traffic after 1940. There is no proposal for the construction of a new bridge.

(*b*) Yes. It is reported that both abutments and some of the piers were cracked in the vicinity of the girder bed stones due to lack of lubrication of the free end and that necessary repairs have been carried out.

(*c*) A few ruts are reported to have developed over the cement concrete roadway. They have since been repaired. There was no dispute between the District Board Engineer and the contractor regarding the laying of the road surface. There was however some dispute regarding certain claim made by the contractor. The Government do not consider it necessary to direct the Chief Engineer to inspect the road and make a report.

Assignment of T.S. No. 1868 of ward No. 7 in Trichinopoly municipal area to the Harijans of Varaganeri as house-sites.

258 *Q.*—SRI R. MARUTHAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Harijans of Varaganeri applied for the assignment of T.S. No. 1868 of ward No. 7, Trichinopoly; if so, when;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the land was notified to be sold in public auction;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Harijans protested against such a measure on the ground that it was suitable for their occupation for residential purposes;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Government replied to a petition that it was unsuitable for Harijans as the land was a valuable one;

(*e*) whether the land is suitable for any purpose other than construction of residential buildings; and

(*f*) whether the land derives its value owing to its being in the municipal area or otherwise?

A.—(*a*) Yes, in 1933.

(*b*) & (*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*d*) The Government replied that the land was very valuable and was not quite suitable for the location of Harijan quarters.

(*e*) Yes, for the construction of shops as well.

(*f*) Yes; the site lies within the municipal limits, in the very heart of the town, in the midst of a business centre.

Alleged maladministration of the Rameswaram Panchayat Board.

259 *Q.*—SRI U. MUTHURAMALINGA TEVAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any complaint has been made against the President of the Rameswaram Panchayat Board with respect to his administration, and if so, when it was first received;

(*b*) whether there was any enquiry made thereon by the District Panchayat Officer, Ramnad, and also by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards;

(*c*) whether the report has been made of their investigations; and

(*d*) what action has been taken thereon?

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A.—(*a*) Several complaints were received. The first one was received in January 1938.

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) A report was received from the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards and it related to the refusal of the Panchayat to grant permission for the construction of an electric power house by the Rameswaram Devasthanam.

(*d*) The Panchayat Board was directed to give permission for the construction of the electric power house.

Number and the amount of subsidy given to each of the handloom weaving subsidiary societies and the affiliation of the handlooms in the Presidency to the Provincial Society.

260 *Q.*—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many handloom weaving subsidiary societies were formed in each of the years 1935–36, 1936–37, 1937–38 and 1938–39;

(*b*) the amount given to them as subsidy in each of the abovesaid years;

(*c*) the number of handlooms in existence in the Presidency;

(*d*) the number of handlooms affiliated to the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society;

(*e*) why the other handlooms are not brought under the control of the societies and whether it is due to some difficulty felt by the handloom weavers in joining the societies; and

(*f*) whether the Government will be pleased to place a statement on the table of the House in respect of the answers to clauses (*c*) and (*d*) above, with particulars of the number of handlooms in Harur and Dharmapuri taluks and also the places where handloom weaving subsidiary societies have been formed with the number of handlooms, in each of the years mentioned above?

A.—(*a*) The number of primary weavers' societies registered in each of the years is as follows:—

1935–36	18
1936–37	32
1937–38	60
1938–39 (up to January 1939) ..	27

(b) The amounts disbursed by the Madras Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Limited, as subsidy to the primary societies affiliated to it from 1935–36 to 1938–39 are as follows:—

	RS.
1935–36	3,371
1936–37	16,596
1937–38	17,834
1938–39 (up to January 1939).	16,736

(c) No precise and up-to-date information is available.

(d) 3,330.

(e) Societies have been formed only in important centres. Due to the inadequacy of funds at the disposal of the Provincial Society, more societies, if formed, cannot be subsidized. Further, the weavers find it very difficult to contribute even the small share capital required for the membership of a society.

(f) No up-to-date information is available. There is no weavers', society in the Harur taluk, but there is one in Dharmapuri. It was registered in January 1938 and has 22 handlooms.

Facilities for the sale of cloth produced by the Madras handloom weavers' subsidiary societies.

261 *Q.*—Sri M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the value of cloth produced by the subsidiary societies and sold by the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited, is for each of the years 1935–36, 1936–37, 1937–38 and 1938–39 up to the end of December 1938;

(b) what facilities are provided to increase the sales;

(c) how much of the sales was done by sales depots and how much by the individual societies themselves;

(d) what the chief duties of the Marketing Officer are and what the extent of the transactions finished by him during each of the years 1935–36, 1936–37, 1937–38 and 1938–39 is; and

(e) whether the number of tour days is fixed and whether he is taking orders for the products when he tours?

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A.—(*a*) & (*c*) The value of the cloth produced by the primary societies and that sold by the societies as well as by the Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society during the years mentioned, is as shown below:—

Year.	Value of cloth produced by the subsidiary societies.	Value of cloth sold direct by the societies.	Value of cloth sold in the sales depots of the Provincial Society.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
1935–36	1,47,063	87,877	No depot was opened in this year.
1936–37	2,25,326	2,44,245	21,942
1937–38	6,12,674	5,65,217	66,104
1938–39 (up to 31st December 1938) ..	3,22,995	2,45,705	44,293

(*b*) The Provincial Society has opened sales depots in important centres in the Presidency. It also gives subsidies to primary societies to employ salesmen to increase local sales.

(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 368, Development, dated 8th March 1935, which has been placed in the Library of the Legislature. No separate figures showing the transactions completed by him are available.

(*e*) The post of the Marketing Officer has been abolished and his work has now been entrusted to four Executive Officers who are required to tour for 22 days in a month.

Particulars regarding the successful students of the Government Textile Institute from 1935–36 *to* 1937–38 *and the qualifications for the post of Sizing Assistant in the Institute.*

262 *Q.*—Sri M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many students passed out of the Government Textile Institute in each of the years 1935–36, 1936–37 and 1937–38;

(*b*) how many of them are supervisors and how many of them are artisans;

(*c*) how many of them are employed;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Principal of the Government Textile Institute insists on an apprenticeship of two years

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in power mills, for the post of Sizing Assistant in the Government Textile Institute and whether it is a fact that there was an advertisement in that behalf; and

(e) why such qualifications are insisted upon when there is no power mill?

A.—(a) & (b) The information required is given below:—

Year.	Supervisor courses.	Artisan courses.
1935–36	12	28
1936–37	16	27
1937–38	31	31

(c) No information is available as the past students do not keep the Institute informed about their employment after leaving the Institute.

(d) The statutory service rules issued by the Government lay down that the candidates for appointment to the post of Assistant Demonstrator—Power preparatory section—in the Government Textile Institute, Madras, shall possess the following qualifications:—

"Practical experience in the winding, warping and sizing departments of a mill for a period of not less than two years.

Preference shall be given to a candidate possessing in addition the Supervisor Course Certificate of the Government Textile Institute, Madras."

As regards the second part of the question the answer is in the affirmative.

(e) There are power driven machines for winding, warping, and sizing in the Government Textile Institute, Madras, and the qualifications prescribed are necessary for operating these machines.

Development and supply of electrical energy by the Government all over the Presidency.

263 Q.—Sri P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what is the policy of the Government in regard to the generation, supply and control of electric power in this Presi-

(b) whether the Government propose ultimately to mono-

dency;

polize this branch of public service as a State concern to the exclusion of all private enterprise in this field;

(c) whether it is possible ultimately under Government control to make electric power available all over the Presidency;

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(*d*) whether the Government have any regular programme for the development and extension of electrical energy all over the Presidency;

(*e*) if so, what it is and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table of the House;

(*f*) what is the expenditure on capital side incurred so far for the development and extension of electrical energy in the different linguistic areas in the Presidency, Tamil, Telugu, Kerala and Kanarese districts;

(*g*) what is the percentage of profit the Government are getting on this outlay; and

(*h*) whether the Government are taking any steps to popularize the use of electrical energy for domestic, agricultural and industrial purposes and if so, what they are?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to starred question No. 395 given on the 23rd March 1938.

(*b*) There is no such proposal at present.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*d*) & (*e*) The answer is in the negative.

(*f*) & (*g*) A statement [a] showing the capital expenditure to the end of 1937–38 and the percentage of profit realized is annexed. The whole of the Pykara Electricity system with the exception of the extension to Palghat serves the Tamil areas. The whole of the Mettur Electricity system also serves the Tamil areas excepting a portion of the Chittoor district. The extension to Palghat serves a part of the Kerala areas and the extensions in the Chittoor district serve a part of the Telugu areas. Separate figures for these extensions are not available. The Vizagapatam and Bezwada Electric Supply schemes serve the Telugu areas.

(*h*) Distribution of propaganda pamphlets, personal canvassing and demonstration of electric drive are some of the steps taken to popularize and encourage the wider use of electricity. The technical knowledge of the Electricity department staff is placed freely at the disposal of the consuming public.

Number of depressed class members on the local bodies in the several districts in the last three years.

264 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the number of depressed class members on the district boards, panchayat boards and municipal councils in 1936–37, 1937–38, 1938–39, respectively, districtwar?

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 92 infra.

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A.—The particulars[a] required so far as they relate to the members returned to the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes is appended. Information regarding the number of members of the Scheduled Castes returned to the non-reserved seats is not readily available.

Statistics regarding the extent of and revenue from cultivation under the several sources of irrigation in the ryotwari and zamin areas in the Chittoor district.

265 *Q.*—SRI C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to place on the table a statement showing for each Government taluk of Chittoor district and for the various zamindari areas therein—

(1) the total cultivable area;

(2) the area actually cultivated during the last twenty years;

(3) the wet cultivation, differentiating those under (*a*) spring channels, (*b*) Public Works department maintained tanks, and (*c*) Revenue department tanks;

(4) the number of such tanks and channels;

(5) the authority or authorities who are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of these tanks and channels;

(6) the amount expended thereon from the grant for Tank Restoration Scheme estimates, yearwar;

(7) the number and the area cultivated under (*a*) wells in the wet ayacut and (*b*) those under dependent wells; and

(8) the extent of land irrigation revenue under each source and the remissions granted?

A.—(1) *to* (4) *&* (7) The Government have no more detailed figures than those contained in Appendices II, III and V to the season and crop report for each fasli, a copy of which is available in the library of the Legislature. Statistics for each taluk and zamindari area are not separately maintained. The collection of the figures requested for so many separate areas and for a period of twenty years would involve an expenditure of time and money incommensurate with the object desired.

(5) Generally speaking Collectors are in charge of the maintenance of works which irrigate extents of less than 200 acres with the exception of those placed in charge of the Public Works department for special reasons. The Public Works department are in charge of the others.

(6) Statistics for each district are not maintained.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 93–96 infra.

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(8) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Appendix III of the Administration Report of the Public Works Department—Part II—Irrigation. For the reasons stated in the reply to clauses (1) to (4) and (7) above, the Government regret that they are unable to undertake to supply the information for each source separately, as asked for.

Abolition of the post of Additional District and Sessions Judge, Tirunelveli.

266 *Q.*—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state with reference to the District Court, Tirunelveli—

(*a*) whether the Government considered the adequacy of a single Judge to dispose of old arrears and deal with current work before they decided to abolish the post of Additional Judge; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a comparative statement of the pendency of civil and criminal work on the date of appointment of the Additional Judge and the date of abolition of the post?

A.—(*a*) On the recommendation of the High Court the Government sanctioned the appointment of an Additional Sessions Judge for the Tirunelveli district for a period of three months from the 28th September 1938. The High Court recommended subsequently the abolition of the post from 24th December 1938, the date of commencement of the Christmas holidays in 1938. This latter recommendation of the High Court was accepted by the Government as the District and Sessions Judge, Tirunelveli, and the High Court were satisfied that it was not necessary to continue the temporary post after the 23rd December 1938.

(*b*) A statement * is laid on the table.

Abolition of the post of Additional District and Sessions Judge, Tirunelveli.

267 *Q.*—SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state with reference to the District Court, Tirunelveli—

(*a*) whether the Government considered the adequacy of a single Judge to dispose of old arrears and deal with current work before they decided to abolish the post of Additional Judge; and

* Printed as Appendix VII on page 98 infra.

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a comparative statement of the pendency of civil and criminal work on the date of appointment of the Additional Judge and the date of abolition of the post?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to *Legislative Assembly* unstarred question No. 266.

Area irrigated by the Cauvery before and after the opening of the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

268 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the area irrigated by the Cauvery river before the Mettur Project was opened; and

(*b*) the same after the Mettur Project was opened?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The following irrigation systems for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are connected with the Cauvery river:—

(1) Cauvery Delta system.
(2) Cauvery-Mettur Project.
(3) Kattalai Scheme.
(4) Lower Coleroon Anicut system.

Figures of area irrigated by these systems are available in Statement 1 of Appendix II to Irrigation Administration reports. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to these reports. Other areas in the Salem and Trichinopoly districts are irrigated by channels taking from the Cauvery and statistics in respect of them are not readily available.

Cases of corruption in the Registration Department during 1938.

269 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of cases of corruption, if any, reported in the Registration Department during the calendar year 1938;

(*b*) how many of them were reported by the head of the Department;

(*c*) whether, in any of the cases, the delinquents were punished; and

(*d*) if so, the nature of the punishments awarded?

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A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) Six petitions alleging corruption against the officers of Registration Department were received by the Government in 1938. Two of these were transferred to the Inspector-General of Registration who is empowered to pass orders. Two were not signed and copies of the remaining two had already been sent to the Inspector-General of Registration. No action was, therefore, considered necessary in respect of these four petitions.

Cases of corruption in the Police Department in 1937 *and* 1938.

270 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any cases of corruption were reported in the Police Department in the calendar years 1937 and 1938;

(*b*) whether any inquiries were held in any of the cases reported; and

(*c*) what the result of such inquiries is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Some cases of corruption were reported and enquiries were made.

(*c*) A statement [a] on the table shows the action taken against the officers concerned as a result of these enquiries, which shows that in 1938, nineteen constables, two head constables, one Sub-Inspector and one Inspector of Police, were dismissed, or removed or "services dispensed with."

Statistics regarding the cost incurred for the generation of electricity at Mettur during 1938.

271 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of electricity generated at the Mettur Electric power station during the calendar year 1938.

(*b*) the total cost incurred for the construction of the said power station;

(*c*) the working expenditure of the station during 1938;

(*d*) the quantity of electricity supplied to the public;

(*e*) the revenue from the same; and

(*f*) the percentage of net profit?

A.—(*a*) 41,114,250 units.

(*b*) Rs. 43,59,800 (exclusive of the transmission system).

(*c*) Rs. 34,500.

(*d*) 40,056, 500 units.

(*e*) Rs. 9,99,800.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 97 infra.

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(*f*) As the Mettur Hydro-Electric System commenced regular operation only in November 1937, the percentage of net profit for 1937–38 was nil. The operation and maintenance expenses and a part of the interest payments were covered.

Chief food-grains and raw materials exported from this Province and their value.

272 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the chief food-grains and raw materials exported from this Province during each of the last five years; and

(*b*) the value of each?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to 'the Report on the Sea-borne Trade of the Province of Madras,' copies of which are available in the Secretariat Library.

Value of the exports and imports of this Province during the last ten years.

273 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the value of total exports and imports of this Province during the last ten years; and

(*b*) whether these figures include goods sent or received by rail or land?

A.—(*a*) The value of total exports and imports of the Province by sea during the last ten years are given below :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total trade. Imports *plus* exports.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
1928-29	4,874	5,825	10,699
1929–30	4,896	5,764	10,660
1930-31	4,029	4,292	8,321
1931–32	3,410	3,459	6,869
1932-33	3,482	3,181	6,663
1933–34	3,274	3,284	6,558
1934–35	3,881	3,565	7,446
1935–36	3,793	3,706	7,499
1936–37	3,627	4,556	8,183
1937–38	4,052	4,683	8,735
Average for ten years ..	3,932	4,232	8,164

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

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Cost of and the revenue expected from the Mettur Power House.

274 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the capital cost of the Mettur Power House; and

(*b*) the revenue expected to be realized in the near future?

A.—(*a*) The capital cost of the Mettur Power House up to 31st December 1938 was Rs. 43,59,800.

(*b*) The revenue expected to be realized by the sale of power during 1939–40 is Rs. 13·30 lakhs.

Extent of land likely to be irrigated by the ruined tank near Chimnalapadu village, Nugur taluk, if repaired.

275 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of land likely to be irrigated by the ruined tank near Chimnalapadu village in Nugur taluk, East Godavari, if necessary repairs are effected; and

(*b*) what the rough estimate of the cost is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

Possibilities of Gundlavazu stream for irrigation purposes.

276 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will direct the investigation of the possibilities of utilizing for irrigation Gundlavazu stream near Chimnalapadu in Nugur taluk; and

(*b*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Preliminary investigation of the scheme has already been made by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. The detailed investigation of the scheme will be made later on if there is sufficient justification for it.

Scope of the Annavaram reservoir.

277 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the villages which in the contemplation of Government are to be served by the Annavaram reservoir, are; and

(*b*) the total extent likely to be irrigated by the reservoir?

A.—(*a*) Annavaram village.

(*b*) About 315·96 acres.

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Improvements to the Thimmaraju tank, Peddapur taluk, East Godavari.

278 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to unstarred question No. 136 answered on 2nd December 1938 regarding the repairs and improvements to the Thimmaraju tank, Peddapur taluk, East Godavari, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information and answer the question?

A.—The Chief Engineer for Irrigation is investigating the scheme for improving the supply to Thimmaraju tank. He has been requested to submit his report with the necessary estimates on the scheme. The report will contain the information required for a few years. The need for collecting statistics for 30 years as required by the hon. Member is not apparent.

Extent of cultivable portions in the reserved forest and reserved lands, respectively, under panchayats in each district.

279 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) what portion of reserved forest under panchayats in each district is fit for cultivation; and

(*b*) what portion of reserved lands under panchayats in each district is fit for cultivation?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Reserved forests and reserved lands under the panchayat management are all reserved for grazing and for meeting the agricultural needs of the ryots in the locality and so are not available for cultivation though portions of them may be fit for cultivation. A statement [a] showing the portions of reserved forest under panchayat in each district which are fit for cultivation is appended. Out of this extent the actual area which may be made available for cultivation does not exceed 8,400 acres on the whole. Similar particulars regarding reserved lands are not readily available.

Enhancement of the peshkash of the 28 estates of the Bhadrachalam taluk, East Godavari, at the settlement of 1922.

280 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for heavy enhancements of 50 per cent of the peshkash of the 28 estates of the Bhadrachalam taluk, East Godavari, at the settlement of 1922; and

(*b*) whether such heavy enhancements were made in any other part of the Province?

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[a] Printed as Appendix IX on page 97 infra.

A.—(*a*) The peshkash of the estates referred to was fixed with reference to the net assets of the proprietors and the increase of peshkash at the resettlement of 1922 was due to a considerably larger increase in the assets of the proprietors.

(*b*) The peshkash on estates in other parts of the Presidency is permanently fixed and is not therefore subject to enhancement. The enhancement imposed on the peshkash of the estates in Bhadrachalam is greater than that imposed at resettlements of ryotwari assessment, but as the principles on which this peshkash and the ryotwari assessment are respectively based are essentially different, a comparison between the two cannot properly be made.

Number of uneconomic secondary schools closed during 1938.

281 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of secondary schools closed in the calendar year 1938 as uneconomic; and

(*b*) where these had been situated ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The information available with Government is for the official year 1937–38. During this year one middle school under private management, viz., A.V. Middle School at Komal in the Tanjore district, is reported to have been closed.

Quantity of bones exported from this Province.

282 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any quantities of bones are sent out of the Province;

(*b*) to which countries; and

(*c*) how much was sent last year or in the year for which accounts are available ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Bones to the value of Rs. 18·35 lakhs were exported during 1937–38, mainly to Belgium.

Profit and loss account of the pearl and chank fisheries industry in the Province.

283 *Q*.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the pearl and chank fisheries department was started; and

(*b*) what the expenditure and revenue and net gain or loss in each year are since the time it was started?

A.—(*a*) The pearl and chank fisheries were placed under the control of the Fisheries Department in 1909. As regards the previous history of these fisheries, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 99 of the Report of the Committee on Fisheries in Madras, 1929.

(*b*) A statement[a] furnishing the information for each of the years 1916–1917 to 1937–1938 is appended. Figures for the years 1908–1909 to 1915–1916 are not readily available.

Statistics regarding the fines collected for irregular irrigation for punja crops cultivated as second crop.

284 *Q*.—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state, districtwar, the number of pattas and the fines collected from them for using water for punja crops as second crop in the year 1937–38 and the total of such fines from the Province?

A.—The hon. Member presumably refers to the enhanced water-cess levied for unauthorized irrigation. Figures of the enhanced water-cess levied in respect of unauthorized irrigation of punja crops as second crops are not separately tabulated. The collection of these figures involves the posting of figures from almost every village in the Presidency and will involve an amount of labour and expense disproportionate to the value of the statistics.

Removal of the burial ground near Vennavallivaripeta in the Ellore Municipality from the present site.

285 *Q*.—SRI G. VENKANNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) for how long past the Government have been requested to remove the burial ground near Vennavallivaripeta in the Ellore Municipality to a distant place;

(*b*) whether the burial ground will be removed to a distant place; and

(*c*) if so, in what time it will be done?

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 98 infra.

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A.—(*a*), (*b*) *&* (*c*) The Government have not received any representation in the matter, but they have called for information since receiving this question.

Extent of wet and dry lands affected by the failure of seasonal rains in the North Arcot district and the amount of remission granted therefor, talukwar.

286 *Q.*—Sri D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to place on the table a talukwar statement of North Arcot district showing—

(*a*) the amount of land revenue remission granted under the Board's Standing Orders to the ryots for wet and dry lands in 1938–39 owing to the failure of seasonal rains;

(*b*) the extent of wet and dry lands so affected;

(*c*) to state whether the Government have issued instructions to the local officers to give adequate publicity in the villages to the land revenue concessions sanctioned by the Government; and

(*d*) if so, the nature of the publicity, so given?

A.—(*a*) *&* (*b*) It is not possible to obtain the information before the close of the year.

(*c*) *&* (*d*) A Press Communiqué announcing the land revenue concessions for the current fasli has been issued. The Communiqué was also published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* as well as in the Press generally. The Board of Revenue has been asked to give effect to the orders of the Government in the matter and to issue the necessary instructions to the Collectors of districts.

Opening of a Kallar girls' boarding home under the direct control of the Government.

287 *Q.*—Sri R. S. VENKATARAMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will call for and place before the House statistics of Kallar girls in the Madura district that joined boarding homes managed by Christian missions during the past fifteen years and the number of those that were converted after joining them;

(*b*) whether the Government grant scholarships to almost all the Kallar girls in the mission boarding homes who have embraced Christianity;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that repeated representations by the officers in charge of Kallar reclamation and by the Kallar community have been made for the opening of a Kallar girls' boarding home under the direct control of the Government; and

(*d*) what action has been taken so far on those representations?

A.—(*a*) The number of Kallar girls in the Madura district who joined boarding homes managed by Christian missions during the fifteen years ending in 1937 was 5,106, and the number of girls who were converted after joining them was 126.

(*b*) The District Magistrate, Madura, and the Commissioner of Labour have been authorized to grant scholarships to Kallar pupils in schools and students in colleges. The Government have no information as to how many of the girls in the mission boarding homes who have embraced Christianity, have been granted scholarships.

(*c*) & (*d*) The question of opening a separate boarding home for Kallar girls under direct Government management was considered in 1935 but it was dropped.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939–40.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The second stage of the Budget, namely, the voting of Demands for Grants will be taken up from to-day. The first Demand is Land Revenue. We have had an exhaustive discussion on many of the topics relating to this Demand during the previous sessions and also during the general discussion of the Budget. Therefore the speeches now may be very brief, business-like and to the point. I fix a time limit of 15 minutes for the mover of each cut motion and 10 minutes for the seconder and the other speakers. I hope that hon. Members will keep to these limits of time so that speeches may be finished without any interruption by the Chair. This will also give opportunities for the other hon. Members to speak on the various cut motions.

" Who will move the first cut motion on Demand No. I? Sir Pannir Selvam in whose name it stands is absent."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" If some hon. Members are absent, may we take their time also? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have taken everything into consideration and fixed a time limit of 10 minutes for the other speakers. The Hon. the Revenue Minister will now move Demand No. I."

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 24,45,600, *under Demand I—Land Revenue.*'

" There are 29 cut motions given notice of under this Demand. I have explained the Land Revenue policy of the Government on

previous occasions whenever that question was raised in this House. So far as the Government are concerned, I may say that their proposals are receiving final shape just now. They are not yet complete. I do not want to take much time now. I would like to know from the various hon. Members who have given notice of cut motions what further light they can throw on the subject. I will then briefly state in what stage the proposals are and how the Government propose to proceed with the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—" All the 29 cut motions are merely token motions; so only one motion may be moved. . ."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" May I be permitted to move the motion? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Appadurai Pillai will move the first cut motion on this Demand."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Sir, I beg to move the following cut motion:—

' *To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 24,45,600 *for Land Revenue by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, it is a matter of gratification that the land revenue year has been one of prosperity. We find from the jamabandi report that the season, in spite of distress in three districts of the Presidency—Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool—has been of a ' fairly satisfactory nature.' That is the reason why we find that there has been no fall in land revenue. Land Revenue, Sir, I am glad to be able to say, still continues to be the backbone of our revenue structure. The total land revenue demand according to the jamabandi report seems to have been 904 lakhs and we find that almost the whole of that amount has been collected by the revenue staff. The percentage of collection has been noted down as 98·4 per cent. There is no doubt a slight fall as compared with the collection in the previous year, but that is negligible. 3-3 p.m.

" My point is that when the ryots have been readily meeting the demand of the Government, we cannot say that the Government have been treating the ryots with the same amount of generosity and liberal outlook, with reference to the grant of remission and with reference to the grant of land revenue reduction. We have been clamouring for several years past both on the floor of this House and elsewhere that the incidence of taxation with reference to land revenue has been weighing very heavily upon the ryots and that what is wanted is not a mere remission due to seasonal conditions but a permanent reduction of land revenue, which would afford the best relief to the ryot. We have been pleading over and over again that the attention of Government should be directed to the Marjoribanks Committee's report which was placed before the Government a couple of years ago. Sir, it has been proposed in that report, I understand, that

there should be a reduction of 18¾ per cent in the matter of land revenue. If that reduction is effected, it will not keep the ryot at the mercy of the vicissitudes of the season and the varying economic conditions.

" Now, Sir, it may be argued that whenever there is distress noticeable, the Government have generously come forward to relieve distress by liberal grants in the way of remission. Sir, apart from seasonal remissions, what has been done is clearly indicated in the jamabandi report under the head ' special remissions ' at page 12 of the report for fasli 1347 (1937–38). These are—

' Cancellation of percentage enhancements imposed at resettlement on dry, wet and garden lands in certain tracts resettled in recent years;

' Grant of a remission of 2 annas in the rupee of the wet assessment in the remaining areas in the Province.

' A temporary reduction of water-cess from Rs. 6–4–0 to Rs. 5–12–0 an acre for a first crop with corresponding reductions for other crops in the East and West Godavari and Kistna districts and in the deltaic tracts of the Guntur district.

' The actual cost of the above concessions came to Rs. 71·4 lakhs.'

What was recommended by the Marjoribanks Committee was only a little more than this amount—Rs. 75 lakhs. If that amount is granted to the ryots by way of a permanent reduction in land revenue assessment, it will go a great deal towards assuaging the feelings of dissatisfaction felt by the ryots. Seeing that year after year remissions are granted as a matter of course with reference to seasonal conditions, and that the administration is being carried on efficiently from year to year and that collections have been coming in, it is clear that the administration of the Government would not suffer in the least by a permanent reduction. This appeal has been made on the floor of this House very often, and I hope the Government will lose no time in granting this request.

" Sir, questions have been asked from time to time from both sides of this House as to what the intentions of the Government in this matter are. We have been informed, whenever questions were asked, that the whole scheme has been under the consideration of the Government. The Hon. Minister in charge of Revenue assured us in August 1938, in reply to an interpellation by my hon. Friend Mr. K. V. R. Swami, that

' It is not a simple question confined to the acceptance or non-acceptance of the Marjoribanks Committee Report. The main recommendation of the Marjoribanks Committee Report is that all resettlement enhancements after 1914 should be cancelled and the matter should be settled. After that Report, representations came that resettlements that have preceded 1914 also should be taken into account and the districts that had been resettled before 1914 should also be brought under the recommendations of the Marjoribanks Committee Report. For that reason, the question is being examined. It is not merely this. We are examining other alternative positions with regard to the general land revenue policy as to how any method that is best suited to this Presidency could be found so that the cultivator will not be a victim to the vicissitudes and fluctuations of prices.'

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That is exactly the position which we tried to explain on the floor of this House on all Budget discussions. From August 1938 to March 1939 much water has flown under the bridge, and we are still far from having any assurance from the Government that steps will be taken to reduce the assessment permanently.

" Sir, there is one other matter of uncertainty that has been brought to light as a result of interpellations on the floor of the House, and that is with reference to the land available for purposes of assignment in the future. Sir, in a reply given by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon. the Revenue Minister to an interpellation from my hon. Friend Mr. K. V. R. Swami, it was stated:

'No information at present; but some time ago, a statement was placed on the table in which it was shown that there are 871,000 acres of arable land available for assignment.'

Sir, this figure of 871,000 acres of arable land seems to be rather disturbing in view of the fact that according to the Administration Report published by the Government, under the head ' waste land ', we find that year after year the remark has been repeated that the cultivable waste available for assignment was 11 million acres. That is the extent given in the season and crop report for fasli 1347. According to the figures given there, arable land available for future assignment is about 11 million acres. It is not clear to me how it comes about that only 871,000 acres are said to be available for purposes of assignment, in the answer given by the Parliamentary Secretary. There must be some mistake somewhere. My point in referring to this is that the land revenue which now accrues on the area at present under cultivation, is capable of expansion, and it behoves the Government to see that all available area is assigned for purposes of cultivation.

" I would not have raised this point, Sir, had it not been for the fact that I find that *porambokes* are being assigned in contravention of the existing orders to the effect that porambokes should not be tinkered with to any extent whatsoever. I find in the jamabandi report under the head ' Charges levied for occupation of poramboke lands,' the statement that ' the revenue derived under this head was Rs. 3·67 lakhs against Rs. 3·85 lakhs in the previous fasli, the net decrease being Rs. 17,825.' Again, ' enhanced charges amounting to Rs. 1,68,554 were levied on an extent of 22,507 acres against Rs. 1,80,178 on an extent of 26,047 acres in the previous fasli, showing an incidence of Rs. 7 per acre as in the previous fasli.' This seems to me, Sir, to be an ugly feature in the land revenue administration of the Province. If poramboke land is occupied by the ryot evidently because no steps have been taken to assign land available for cultivation, it means that the ryot has been compelled to occupy the poramboke land, i.e., land set apart for communal use. ' Once a poramboke always a poramboke ' is the maxim accepted and acted upon by the Revenue

the people, should not be diverted for purposes of cultivation. If in spite of penal rates ryots continue to occupy poramboke lands, it only means that they are anxious to take more and more land and that there is greater scope for cultivation; and when there is such scope for expansion, it is up to the Government to meet the demand. That is my point. If poramboke cultivation is penalized and if such a high rate as Rs. 7 is charged per acre, the matter requires looking into. It will not do for us to shut our eyes to the occupation of such objectionable tracts and get revenue from the occupier. Such an attitude ought to be discouraged.

" Again, Sir, we find from the report that 73,321 acres of poramboke lands have been assessed. That is another disturbing aspect in the land revenue administration. As I submitted in the beginning, if cultivation of arable lands is encouraged, there is no need whatsoever for any ryot to trench upon poramboke lands. I commend this fact for the consideration of the Government in the Revenue Department.

" Sir, the question of waste lands available for cultivation leads me to the question of unemployment. If such a large extent of land as 11 million acres, as I have just read out from the season and crop report, is available for cultivation, is it not up to the Government to consider some scheme of colonization about which we have heard so much of late? That seems to be the only remedy available to us for diverting the unemployed into useful pursuits. Sir, if the colonization scheme that is being worked out by the authorities of the Annamalai University is adopted in other parts of the Province, it may probably solve the question of unemployment to a large extent. I find there is a great deal of divergence of opinion with regard to this question of colonization. It is often feared that educated young men would not care to go back to the land. Some consider that the ' back to the land ' theory has been exploded; but whatever that may be, there is still some scope With reference to the experience now gathered by the Annamalai University authorities, it might be possible to give effect to the colonization scheme.

15 n. " Sir, intimately connected with the question of reduction of land revenue is the question of the reclassification of irrigation sources. I would have occasion to deal with this matter under Demand No. VII and so I do not wish to take up the time of the House in dealing with this question at length here; but I think while on this subject, it is necessary that the Government should devote their attention to the question of reclassification that has been introduced about 1914 or 1915 in North Arcot and Chingleput districts when resettlement was introduced. It has been proposed that resettlement should be scrapped and the resettlement rates should not be acted upon so that a permanent reduction in land revenue might be effected. At the same time, reclassification of irrigation sources would confer a real relief on the ryot

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population, for the reason that irrigation sources are at present considerably silted up; they are not at all working to the full capacity originally intended. It is therefore up to the Government to tackle the question of reclassification of irrigation sources, along with the question of the reduction of land revenue, in the manner suggested by the Marjoribanks Committee. I hope that the Government will lose no time in coming to a conclusion on this matter. Sir, this question has been disturbing the minds of the ryots for some time past and they have been expecting substantial relief at the hands of the Government, but unfortunately that relief has been postponed from year to year. Meanwhile several other measures have been brought before this House and not a single session has passed without a number of Bills being pushed through ostensibly for the welfare of the ryots, but among all those measures one would place land revenue reduction at the uppermost. I would therefore commend most heartily the question of permanent reduction of land revenue for the consideration of the Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. Speaker, after the very exhaustive manner in which my hon. Friend the Mover of the cut motion has dealt with the question, I do not think it is necessary for me to go through the question over again; but I would like to take only a very short time of the House in dealing with what I consider to be the most prominent aspect of the question and that is how and when the Government are going to bring forward legislation in order to put land revenue on a statutory basis. We have been asking the Government—of course not this Government but the Governments in the past—to deal with this question once and for all, so that along with the other questions, this all-important aspect of the question could be settled and land revenue could be put on a very strong, sound and scientific basis. Sir, we know the present Government have been engaging themselves on one aspect of land revenue and that is the question of the ryot in the zamindari areas. We have dealt with that question at length and for a number of days as pointed out by the Hon. Speaker at the beginning. I would here refer to the speech made by the Hon. the Premier when he spoke on this question last year. He said, 'We are not experts in this matter, we have just come into office and we are still finding out how we stand, and when we are in a better position to deal with the question, we will take up the question.' He wanted time. Now, I believe, not only the Hon. the Premier, but the Hon. the Revenue Minister also, have become experts in administration; and having become experts, I do not think they will be well-advised in asking for more time hereafter. Sir, the Hon. the Revenue Minister in moving this Demand stated that the Government have been attending to that question and are giving the final touches to legislation that will come up before this House before long. We welcome it.

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" Sir, the other question is that so far as the ryots in the ryotwari areas are concerned, we have been asking the Governments in the past, as well as the Government here to-day, to examine the question of the capacity of the ryot to pay and then to come to a decision as to the rate at which the demand has to be made. In spite of this, they have been going on year after year believing that the condition of the ryot is sound, and that it is not only sound, but is improving year after year, and that he can pay any amount of money or revenue that is required by the Government so far as land revenue is concerned.

" Sir, the Marjoribanks Committee went into this question and made its recommendations. I believe the Government will, while considering the question of legislation on this question, pay due attention to the recommendations of that Committee. They will then realize that the ryot in ryotwari areas is now paying far beyond his capacity to pay.

" Again, Sir, the Government have not been able on account of financial difficulties to launch upon any large schemes of irrigation, or even minor irrigation works to such a large extent as would improve the condition of the land, so that it would enable the ryot to pay more on account of improved conditions. That also has not been done, but the Government have been going on making the demand year after year irrespective of the fact whether he is in a position to do so or not.

" Now, Sir, so far as the current year is concerned, we all know that there has been a great deal of distress on account of the failure of the monsoon, but the ryot has arranged to pay his instalment of kist in the hope that there will be some remission of kist in the coming months. The Government have put off the remission to the months of April and May instead of giving it in the earlier months; this has handicapped the ryot to a very large extent, for, whether he had money or not, he has to pay his kist in the months of February and March. Now, Sir, so far as the question of remission is concerned, the Government decided to give Rs. 75 lakhs last year and in the coming year, I understand, it is only Rs. 50 lakhs. I believe Sir, there is no use of giving a remission of even such a large amount as Rs. 75 lakhs unless it is going to give adequate relief to the small landholder. As a matter of fact, we have found that the amount of Rs. 75 lakhs has not been of any help whatsoever to the small landholder, for in many cases it has not reduced his burden even by one rupee per annum. Unless the Government are prepared to introduce a graded rate of taxation in the proposed legislation, so that the small landholder is enabled to pay much less than the owner of a large extent of land, the remedy that is sought to be given from time to time in bad seasons, will not be of any material help to the small landholder. I therefore suggest that the Government

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should introduce a graded system of land tax. Even as it is, Sir, we find that the method of collection of the tax is really very hard, because the collectors of tax try to collect the highest possible percentage of the tax. The District Collector or the persons in charge of the collection of land revenue are always of the opinion that they must somehow or other collect the highest possible percentage, whatever the condition of the ryot may be; and unless that percentage is reached they are not satisfied and they think they will not be able to satisfy the Government. Conditions vary in different parts and the percentage of collection comes to about 92 or 93. That is not the proper thing to do. The District Collector should be made to understand that the condition of the ryot varies from district to district and that he should not try to collect the same percentage in every district.

"In regard to resettlement, Sir, hon. Members of this House have been always asking this Government as well as the previous Governments to give up this policy of periodical resettlement and resurvey, for it is only working great hardship on the ryots. Resettlements are not made in a scientific manner. Of course one can understand resettlement being made or even an increase in the rate, if prices could be fixed for all time. The difficulty is that prices vary from year to year, and when such is the case, to take the average for the previous 30 years is neither helpful nor advantageous to the owner of the soil. So, the sooner the resettlement is given up, the better.

"Sir, I wish to refer only to one more question and that is in regard to the assignment of land. In the first place lands are assigned to combatants and lands are assigned to non-combatants whenever it is possible to give them. Of late, I believe even combatants are finding it difficult to get lands assigned to them and it is much worse in the case of non-combatants who are poor and who are in need of lands to cultivate.

"I hope, Sir, that as the Hon. the Minister has said, the 4 p.m.
scheme to put the land revenue system on a scientific and statutory basis is receiving the final touches of the Government and I am sure that it will not be long before it is brought before this House."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, I think, trat when a cut motion on the same lines was before the House last year, the Hon. the Revenue Minister said that the House was not able to deal with the matter nor were the Government able to deal with the matter as both of them were amateurs. The Hon. the Premier said that they were a band of amateurs and he urged it as a plea why that question could not be taken up at that time. Even now, I believe, Sir, the Government are not yet ready with the measure; perhaps it is being got ready. We heard the same explanation from the Hon. Minister last time and to-day too we

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are going to hear the same thing. While they have been saying that they were amateurs, I am tempted to ask, 'Why then did they undertake a policy in respect of Excise revenue which had *the effect of wiping off the whole revenue under that head?* It is next in importance to land revenue. Did the Government see the serious complications brought in its train? How is it that they are saying that they are amateurs in regard to one thing while at the same time they consider that they are experts enough to deal with equally complicated problems such as the giving up of the revenue on account of the introduction of Prohibition? I am not quarrelling with the noble object behind it; it may perhaps be necessary to undertake. But my point is only this: 'When you consider yourself capable of dealing with this question, why do you think you are amateurs when it comes to dealing with the land revenue question?' It is a very serious responsibility that the Government have shouldered by wiping away the Excise revenue, and I submit that they should not shrink from this responsibility now. As conditions stand, the people are not able to bear the burden of taxation and it is high time that the question of placing the land revenue system on a proper basis is taken up.

"When dealing with the diffidence of the Government caused by their being amateurs, I am inclined to touch upon the zamindari problem. The Government have undertaken this problem with great alacrity. It is a very complicated problem, full of technical and legal difficulties; and when the House and the Government have been considered to be experts enough to deal with such a complicated problem, I think that they could not put forward that excuse for not bringing in legislation to deal with the land revenue question. I am not in a position to understand how that expertness cannot help them in solving the land revenue problem. When the Hon. Minister was saying that the representatives in the Legislature were not able to discharge their duties to the people by taking into consideration so important a measure because they had not become experts enough for doing so, I think he was telling something which was not quite satisfactory from the point of view of the Opposition. This question has been agitating the minds of the people for the last fifty or sixty years and this has been a live issue in this Province for the last half a century. Even Congressmen have been very vociferous in the past about it; they have been vehement about it; and I am not in a position to understand how the Congress Government is not yet able to tackle this question, though members of that party in the past have clamoured for it. The Hon. the Premier in his reply said that he was very grateful to the Opposition for having reminded the Government of their duty to the villagers and of the pledges to the people whom they were governing, whose votes they got and through which they were in office. The Hon. the Premier might have said it in right

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earnest; but I am afraid that there was in it a sub-acid tinge of sardonic humour and though it was said last year, I am bound to submit that the Opposition did not deserve such a reply at the hands of the Prime Minister who ought to know better and judge better. The Goverument, I submit, ought to treat this important matter of reducing the incidence of taxation as a problem of their own; it does not matter whether they are reminded of it by the Opposition or not but such a reminder by the Opposition ought to be welcomed. It is a question which ought to be taken up for the inherent unsoundness of the whole system itself and the unsoundness should be ended and the question should be effectively tackled.

"After all, what is the position to-day? The Government wanted the Reserve Bank of India to give credit facilities to the poor people. But they said that the peasants were not credit-worthy and that once money was advanced they would not be able to recover it with the result that they would be in a financial quandary. Then again, what about the Co-operative movement? It has thoroughly failed in the rural areas. What is the reason? It is not because the villagers are dishonest. The villager becomes a defaulter owing to his inherent poverty; owing to his incapacity to meet his obligations, he becomes an unwilling defaulter. That is the reason why he becomes a bad co-operator. This can be traced to the high incidence of taxation and that is the crux of the whole problem. In this country the basis of taxation is land. It is said that the root of the nation is in the soil. If the man who works on it is reduced to absolute poverty, if he is ground down by penury with his paying capacity gone, with his purchasing power diminished, you are undermining the very foundations and the basis of the Government which has to get more than fifty per cent of its revenue from the land. The fact that the incidence of taxation is high is incontrovertible and it is high time that it should be regulated and more equitably distributed, not on the acreage basis but on the nature of crops raised and the value realized by growing commercial crops. The grain out-turn and the commutation rates are the two standards by which the whole thing is being carried on. That should be changed. The commutation rates are all out of date owing to the drastic fall in prices since 1930. Even the 1914 basis, I am afraid, will not be the correct basis to-day. By whatever means you approach this problem, whether the Marjoribanks Committee Report is to be the basis, whether it is going to be according to the principles followed in other Provinces such as in the Punjab where the rents and taxes are regulated by the rise and fall in prices—the Hon. the Minister has visited this Province for having first-hand information about the system obtaining there—whether there is to be another committee to go into the whole question *de novo*, I think it is a question which will not brook delay and one which calls for immediate tackling. It is very imperative that the whole thing should be placed on a more satisfactory and equitable basis

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" The Hon. the Premier in one of his speeches has said that land revenue is a toothless cow that has been given to this Government by the previous Governments, which has become '*Nirindriya*' that is, past the condition of calf-bearing or giving milk. Though the Hon. the Premier is usually apt in his illustrations, I am bound to say that in this respect it has not been a happy illustration. I am afraid that he has made a caricature of the cow. On the other hand, Sir, my impression is that the land, the basic stay of our people, is a *Kamadhenu*, the celestial cow, gentle-eyed and kindly mother who is still feeding her children in spite of all the bad treatment that has been meted out to her, in spite of the bad treatment that the present Government have been meting out to her following the footsteps of the previous Governments. I think, Sir, that the way in which this cow has been treated may be compared to the treatment given by the Madras milkman to his cow. He extracts every drop of milk from her, starving the calf (the ryot) and starving the mother (the land) and leaving her to pick up her food on the roadside and on the garbage heap. Is it any wonder, Sir, that the cow looks lanky and haggard-looking and even toothless owing to neglect and want of care? If it is a toothless cow, nobody else is to blame than the Government. This is the correct picture I would draw. To resuscitate the cow, that is, in other words, to prevent the exhaustion of the soil and to conserve its productive capacity, should engage the active attention of the Government with the powerful collaboration of the Agricultural and Industries departments. Unless land is treated as an investment, unless some efforts are made to put back some money into it, unless it is enabled to yield a better return, a better dividend to the ryots, you cannot hope to get along successfully on the road of Provincial Autonomy. Provincial Autonomy with its growing demand for social services and social amelioration is growing apeace. Hence, Sir, as an administrative necessity the reduction of the high incidence of taxation has to be tackled and the land revenue system should be placed on a statutory basis. It is in this view that I am pleading for it and not to embarrass the Government nor to remind the Government of their duty to the people who have placed them in power. Hence I plead that this question should be taken up immediately so that the condition of the ryots may be improved and greater prosperity may attend the country as a result of the Autonomy that we are now enjoying.

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Mr. Speaker, in supporting the cut motion under discussion, I have to say that the revenue policy of the Government has not come up to the expectation of the people. It is indeed surprising that this Government have not yet taken steps to revise the land revenue system in this Presidency. Instead of setting their house in order, they have gone about setting the house of their neighbour, the zamindar, in order and have left us out altogether. If the ryots of the ryotwari area have been calm and have not made any agitation in this

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respect, it is out of their goodness. They waited so long expecting a thorough reform of the land revenue system. What do we notice now for all their patience and long suffering? What has the ryotwari ryot got from the Government? It is nothing but a few crumbs from the table, land revenue remissions occasionally. Do the Government feel that by the grant of these remissions they have discharged their duty to the ryot? Is his condition such that reform can be delayed indefinitely? No. Every day's delay is making the condition of the ryot more acute.

"No doubt this Government ever since they assumed office have been giving large remissions of seventy-five and eighty lakhs. Has this land revenue remission relieved the misery of the ordinary ryot? Has it improved his budget to any extent? Sir, I may say frankly that the land revenue remission has not improved the ryot's position in any way. Firstly, the concessions that the Government may grant come to them in an unexpected way; they do not know when these remissions are going to be granted. A Government Order is suddenly issued announcing that so much remission is granted to such and such districts at such and such a rate, and so they do not know exactly what to do, and how to adjust their income and expenditure. Therefore the concessions do not benefit the ordinary agriculturists. But they do benefit the rich agriculturists. The rich agriculturists having hundreds of acres are benefited by these concessions. But the poor agriculturists having an acre or two, who may get at best a few annas by such remissions, are not benefited by the remissions, as the amount of gain to them is quite negligible. In many cases the small concessions granted to the agriculturists do not reach the poor man at all. These concessions are lost somewhere, as I said last time on the floor of the House. At the same time the grant of concessions put the Government to a very heavy loss every year. I therefore plead that the money lost by these concessions may be spent by way of improving and starting minor irrigation schemes. The relief given by such expenditure will be of a permanent nature. These tend to improve the economic condition of the ryot and enables him to pay the taxes; and I may say that if the agricultural produce is improved he will be able to pay more taxes.

4.15 p.m.

"Another important benefit of this scheme is that it will improve the condition of the landless labourers as it will give them more employment by the grant of lands that are not being used by them now. Sir, I may tell you that this is not my personal view. Within my constituency, I have had the pleasure of visiting some of the big villages, where I met the ryots both rich and poor, and I tried to impress on some of them that the present Government have done a lot for them by way of land revenue remissions and so on. But all of them said that instead of foregoing a part of the revenue the Government may carry out the many small improvements which are being put off for want of funds.

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"Coming to another point, Sir, it is very astonishing to find that the Government have done nothing to improve the lot of the agricultural labourer. From statistics I am given to understand that they form 43 per cent of the population of the Province. They do not get any relief under the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, as they have no saleable interest. The Act permits the rich landowner to scale down all his debts but debars landless labourers from securing any relief at the hands of the same exploiting creditor. This is a strange irony of fate. The number of landless labourers is swelling by leaps and bounds; and this rapid growth is partly due to the expropriation of petty landowners resulting from indebtedness to usurious money-lenders. *In consequence the agriculturist of yesterday turns into the landless labourer of to-day.* As a result, the supply of field labour increases, and wages drop below the normal with disastrous effects. It is high time that the Government take immediate steps to improve their condition. In the Ceded districts, which are worse hit by famine, this problem is very acute. Every famine swells their numbers tenfold, and it is they who are hit most by these famines. Sir, I plead on behalf of these unfortunate people, their condition brooks no delay. The Government should take steps immediately to prevent their number from increasing. A person earning a salary of Rs. 100 or below is given protection by law; his salary is not attachable; even in the case of the excess above Rs. 100 only a moiety of the excess is attachable. Sir, may I ask, why is it in the case of the agriculturist, the creditor is given a free hand to deprive the ryot of his land, his source of income, completely? Cannot some such protection as is given to the salaried people be given to the ryot?

"Now, Sir, coming to another important point, that is the question of assignment of land, I would like to say a few things. The policy of land assignment pursued by this Government gives no chance to the poor ryot, in that no land can be given free of cost, but is sold to the highest bidder at market value. No doubt some facilities are provided for labouring depressed classes, such as payment by instalments. But that really takes them nowhere. He has to compete with a rich and influential landlord. As such, a good piece of land is taken away by the rich, and useless unfertile land alone is available to the poor ryot. The Government should change this short-sighted policy. There are many more defects in the present system. The Government should take immediate steps to improve their lot. A thorough investigation into the present conditions should be started.

"Again, steps should be taken to find out the extent of fragmentation of holdings and fragmentation of cultivation. The economic disadvantages of excessive fragmentation are well recognized and need no reiteration. While this is recognized, no attempts have been made to overcome them. I believe, Sir, that this problem is being tackled in the Punjab, Bombay and the

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Central Provinces; and I request our Government should not lag behind those provinces, but should take up this question immediately. I also suggest that a special officer, preferably one with revenue and co-operative experience, be appointed to make a special study of this question and gather information on the present state of fragmentation; and he may also be deputed to go to other provinces where this problem is being tackled. I request Government to make some beginning at least in this matter.

" Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the Government the serious defects in the present system of dealing with the petitions and appeals from the ryots. Many officers of the districts are in the habit of forwarding every petition to their subordinate officers indiscriminately for report, even though a report may not be necessary, thereby occasioning delay and giving rise to complaints from the public. I think that in so doing they are causing unnecessary delay for months without giving any reply to the innumerable number of petitions in their offices. Therefore, I suggest that strict instructions be issued to revenue officers to pay prompt attention to petitions received by them from ryots and see that they are disposed of within a month.

" Another defect in the procedure adopted in the matter of appeals to the Revenue Board needs reform. An appeal presented to the Board is forwarded for remarks to the Collector against whose judgment the appeal has been preferred. And as soon as the remarks of the Collector are received, the matter is disposed of by the Board of Revenue. The guiding factor for the Board of Revenue happens to be the remarks of the Collector. No chance is given to the party who has preferred the appeal to answer the remarks of the Collector. This system is responsible for the impression created amongst the ryots that appeals to the Board of Revenue are of no avail. A chance to the ryot to answer the remarks of the Collector either personally or in writing should invariably be given. He must be given a copy of the remarks of the Collector.

" While speaking about the Board of Revenue I am reminded of the existence of a supernumerary post. I refer, Sir, to the post of Assistant Secretary, Court of Wards. He is the result of a reform in the establishment in 1937 or 1938. The number of estates now under the control and supervision of the Court of Wards does not necessitate an Assistant Secretary to the Court of Wards. I wonder whether he will have business even for an hour in the day. This post should be immediately abolished and saving effected.

" Lastly, I bring to the notice of the Government the hardship that is being caused in the working of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act. A number of cases I have observed wherein the

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courts have not given relief when attachments of the life's savings of a poor agriculturist in a bank are effected on the ground that money does not come under the term 'movable property' and attachment and appropriation by the creditor does not amount to 'sale.' This misunderstanding may be cleared by a suitable amendment of the Act, if necessary. With these words, I support the cut motion."

* MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, after the exhaustive speeches on the general discussion I do not wish to cover the same ground again. The next cut motion that stands in my name is item No. 16. I pass on to item No. 16."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"You can speak on any cut motion relating to the Demand."

* MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir. It is hardly necessary for me to say that India is mainly an agricultural country and the prosperity of India depends upon the prosperity of agriculture. In this connexion, I wish to bring to the notice of this House that the Government ought to be more liberal and generous in the grant of vacant lands to the backward communities. There are numerous poor Christians and Harijans who are anxious to earn their livelihood by means of agriculture. They may thereby not eke out their livelihood very richly, but it will just make both ends meet. If lands are granted to them much of the problem of unemployment will be solved. This Government have already passed a piece of legislation to ameliorate the condition of the agriculturists and another piece of legislation is going to be brought next July for the help of the agriculturists. If more lands are granted to these people, agriculture will be greatly encouraged. In this connexion, Sir, in addition to the poor Christians and Harijans, I wish to bring to the notice of Government that in the districts of East Godavari and Vizagapatam, in parts of the Peddapuram taluk, Yellamanchili and Anakapalle divisions and a major portion of the Vizagapatam district, as the Hon. Minister for Revenue very well knows, there are a number of Muslims who are known by the name of Dudikalas, whose chief occupation is to break stones or to cut wood and who are very, very poor. I want to bring to the notice of the Government that these people applied for the grant of lands and it was refused; probably because there was nobody on their behalf to represent their case or to show their backwardness or to press their case before the Hon. the Revenue Minister. There are vast tracts of waste lands in the East Godavari district towards the north and also in the Vizagapatam district. If these lands are granted to these honest, hard-working people along with the Christians and the poor Adi-Andhras, much of the question of unemployment will be solved and the abject poverty to which they are being reduced day by day, will be obviated. I wanted to bring just these points to the notice of this House."

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* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Speaker, after patiently—or impatiently—waiting for the past twenty months, with a sigh of relief, the people of this Province hear the welcome news of the announcement made to-day by the Hon. the Revenue Minister that the revision and readjustment of the land revenue system in our Province are receiving the final touches at the hands of this Government.

" 'Reduction of land tax' was one of the foremost election pledges and since this Ministry took office the people have been for the last twenty months on the tip-toe of expectation that something substantial was contemplated to be given to the people in the shape of a reduction, a substantial reduction, in the land tax. It is admitted on all hands, Sir, that the land assessment is weighing very heavily on the agriculturist and the ryot. In the ryotwari areas 50 per cent of the net produce is being taken away as the share of the State. The miserable condition in which these ryots have found themselves on account of the debts which they had to incur, has naturally raised in their minds high hopes that a quick remedy will be found to reduce this excessive burden of land tax on the agriculturists. The economic depression which has persisted since 1929 has aggravated the difficulties of the agriculturists and as a result they have found themselves in a perpetual and increasing state of indebtedness. To-day, the amount of the indebtedness of the agriculturists stands at the appalling figure of 200 crores of rupees. When such is the plight of the agriculturist in this Province and of the ryots and landholders who are mainly responsible for the economic prosperity of the country, it is really a wonder that the Government took such a long time over this question. Whenever questions were being asked, the Hon. the Revenue Minister was pleased to answer on every occasion that the matter was under consideration. It is really a very good thing that at last the Government have been able to come to some definite conclusion. We do not yet know what that conclusion really is. But, let us hope that when the proposal is placed before this House and before the country it will be a very substantial proposal for the reduction of the heavy burden of land tax on the people of this Province. Sir, it was only the other day that the Hon. the Revenue Minister accompanied by his Parliamentary Secretary visited the Punjab to study at first hand the sliding scale system of land revenue that has been introduced in that Province. I think, Sir, that a system like that might also be attempted here and the experiment may be tried, though not in the whole of the Province, at any rate, in some parts of the Province. It may be very helpful in a way. Of course, the land assessment is to be adjusted according to the prevailing price of land produce.

" Sir, I would like to place one or two other suggestions before the Government for their consideration. The Government may have already formulated their proposals. Since they

have not published them, I do not know what those proposals contain. Still, I venture to hope that the proposals that I wish to place before the Government will receive full consideration. While readjusting the land revenue system, I suggest that the ryots or the landholders might be classified into three categories. The first of the categories must include all those agriculturists or landholders whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 200; the second category must include all those whose annual income is above Rs. 200 but does not exceed Rs. 2,000; and the third category must include all those whose annual income is above Rs. 2,000. Now, Sir, my suggestion is that the first category may be *entirely exempted from* the payment of land tax, because their holdings are hardly able to give them a living. With regard to the second and the third categories, I must say that both may be made to pay a uniform land assessment based on a just and equitable system. The third category may be made to pay, in addition to the ordinary land tax or assessment, an extra tax on agricultural income.

" Sir, when the Government were dealing with the matter for such a long time, we naturally thought—at any rate I thought so—that the Government were reluctant, or that they were hesitating, because they were anxious that there would be a fall in their revenue. No doubt, any readjustment of the land revenue system and a reduction of the land tax will entail a loss of revenue to the Government, and land tax revenue being the largest item of revenue for the Government, it is natural to expect that the Government would not be wise in reducing the income from that source. But, if proper safeguards are provided and if proper methods are adopted to avoid a sudden and serious decrease in this item of revenue, I may say, that the Government will not be faced with any serious situation with regard to this land revenue income. If the methods that I have placed before the Government are considered and given effect to, my humble opinion is that such a situation will not arise. We have also thought that the Government were hesitating because of the loss of revenue on account of the introduction of Prohibition. But I do not think that the Government had any fears on this account, because, evidently it is only after making a deep study of the question that they have now come to a conclusion. I am sure that they will come out with a very, very constructive policy with regard to this question.

" Sir, I wish to place before the Government one more suggestion on this occasion which may be very helpful in replenishing the loss, in making up the loss that might occur on account of the revision of the land revenue system. No doubt, under the Government of India Act, the Provincial Government have no jurisdiction to levy an import duty on rice that is brought into this Province from outside, nor does it seem to be easy to move the Central Government in the matter. But, I believe that under

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the Government of India Act itself, the Provincial Government have got the power to levy cesses on imported rice, whether broken or unbroken, in local areas. Thus, if the Government think of levying such a cess on foreign rice imported into this country, it will not only increase the income of the Government, but also increase the price of our rice which is the main land produce here.

"With these few suggestions, I am really glad to say that it is a very happy occasion to congratulate the Hon. the Revenue Minister on the announcement that he has made. But, in spite of the assurances given by him to-day and the announcement made, if he is found to be guilty of any further delay on any future occasion, I for one would say that his action will deserve to be condemned."

* SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"Mr. Speaker, 4-1
the Hon. the Revenue Minister has informed this House more than once that the Government have been considering in all its aspects the question of land revenue reform. It is a very urgent matter, much more urgent, if I may say so, than even Prohibition, and it is time the Government took definite and drastic steps not only to purge the system of its anomalies, but also to lower the incidence to the bearable minimum. The lot of the farmers and tillers of the soil in our Presidency is as bad in the ryotwari areas as it is alleged to be in the zamindari tracts; it has been growing worse year by year, so that it is long since the proverbially chronic penury of the rural population passed the limit of their capacity to bear it. The Congress party has held out promises of reduction of land revenue, and a patient peasantry is still kept in a state of precarious expectation. The urgent need of the hour is compendious legislation effecting a permanent reduction in the land tax, fixing the rate for all time to come at a reasonable percentage. I am voicing the feeling of the rural population when I say that the solution of the problem has been delayed for too long a period and that it is dangerous to defer it any further indefinitely. The Government are in possesion of all the facts of the problem to enable them to frame suitable legislation clarifying the policy of land revenue once for all as it has been done in other Provinces.

"Now coming to details, it is rather extraordinary that no uniform procedure has been adopted in distributing the general remission of Rs. 75 lakhs granted recently. I do not understand why a remission of 25 per cent should be granted in certain areas and smaller percentages in other areas. For instance in my division, the percentage of remission is as low as 12½. Even this remission is given to wet lands only, whereas dry lands have fared equally badly in the drought season. The remission is a palliative; it does not give even temporary relief because it is so low. The land tax was raised in the last settlement in 1913

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on both wet and dry lands by 25 per cent. Any remission, to be really helpful, should be not less than the 25 per cent enhancement of 1913.

" Another important point I want to urge upon the Government is the refusal to grant part field remissions, in accordance with the Board's Standing Orders. In times of drought well irrigation is resorted to. If water is not available in sufficient quantity, only a part of a plot, say two out of four acres, is cultivated. Tax is levied not only on land that is so irrigated and cultivated but also on land which is not cultivated and is left waste. In other words, the cultivator reaps the benefit of his occupation only from one part of his plot, and the other part is practically useless to him at any rate during the drought season. The Government assess the whole of his plot. That is manifestly unjust and absurd. That imposes upon the cultivator a serious disability and a heavy burden. If the Standing Orders are defective, they should be amended so as to obviate inequitable assessment. I trust the Government will bestir themselves in this matter.

" The third point I desire to mention is the collection of what are called subdivision fees. If I purchase a piece of land from out of the plot of a fellow-farmer, I have to pay Rs. 2 for each side of the subdivision. If the slice I buy is a triangle, I have to pay Rs. 6; if it is a pentagon I have to pay Rs. 10; and so on and so forth. I am already paying land tax which is heavy enough; then I pay the stamp duty, and then the registration fees. As if these impositions were not enough to make existence irksome, I am asked to pay the monstrous levy of subdivision fees. Till a few years ago, no such fees were levied. I urge the immediate and total abolition of this iniquitous impost. There seems to be no end to the avarice of the Revenue Department. If a ryot wants silt from out of the bed of a tank, he is asked to pay half-anna per cartload. He is actually helping the Government while helping himself. By removing the silt from a tank, he helps to increase its capacity to hold and retain water. The revenue officials should welcome and encourage the ryots to do so, instead of discouraging them by asking them to pay for it. I have already mentioned in my speech during the general discussion on the Budget the difficulties experienced by cultivators in securing permits for irrigating isolated dry plots by means of tank water; the revenue officials can be a little accommodating in this small matter. Also as regards collection of green manure from trees on the border of a plot, the revenue officials will do well to pursue a generous policy. I have explained these matters already, and I hope the Government are considering them earnestly with a view to their being increasingly helpful to the cultivators.

"I have to refer to one more aspect of the land revenue problem, the most important of all the aspects I have touched. My district of North Arcot depends mostly on tanks. These tanks were classified years ago according to their capacity to hold and retain water, the first class of tanks being those that hold the water for ten months in the year. It will surprise you vastly to hear that the old classification stands good for the purpose of fixing the taram of a land and collection of revenue, although the tanks have become silted up and do not justify the classification even by 50 per cent. The taram of a piece of land irrigated from a first-class tank is higher than that of a land irrigated from a second-class tank. The rate of revenue bears a direct proportion to the taram. Thus the cultivator is made to pay more than what is justly due to the Government. I suggest that a special officer may be appointed forthwith to revise the classification of the tanks according to their present capacity and reassess the lands accordingly. It is the moral duty of the Government to undertake this revision. It is not proper to stick to a classification which no longer holds good."

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur rose.

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may perhaps be informed of what I said at the beginning that each member should limit his speech to a maximum of 15 minutes."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am obliged to you for the information. I shall try to be even briefer if possible." (Laughter.)

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Every member has been like that."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir. Really I do not want much time. Things have already been repeated."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Quite so."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"The first item that stands in my name is to urge upon the Government the necessity for reorganizing the land revenue system in the ryotwari areas with a view to put the same on an equitable basis subject to the control of the Legislature. From what I gather I hear that several hon. Members have spoken on that subject. So I need refer to only one point. The greatest justification for urging such a reform is the Report of the Estates Land Act Committee. That Committee has justified beyond any doubt, Sir, that there is far greater need for putting the ryotwari system on a sounder and more satisfactory basis. Taking by way of illustration two districts alone, of which I am very familiar and which I have the privilege to represent in this House, the South Arcot and the Chingleput districts; in 1918, the South Arcot district was resettled and in some parts the enhancement of assessment was 33⅓ per cent and 18 per cent or 19 per cent was

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the assessment in the Chingleput district. That was at a time when prices had gone high. Now the prices have gone so low that not even the present Government could envisage when the old level will be reached. No doubt there has been some rise in the price of some commodities but that will not justify $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent and 18 per cent in these two districts. The same applies to the districts that have undergone the ordeal. The half-net principle was introduced long ago and now, Sir, if the Hon. Minister and the Secretary would work out the figures by which the half-net was arrived at and commuted into the money value; they will realize that the cultivator suffers nothing but an enormous loss and makes no profit out of his cultivation. Therefore, Sir, it is necessary that not only the system should be revised but there is also justification for its being under the control of the Legislature. This resettlement has been for the time being suspended but this is not the final remedy that we are urging. On the other hand, there must be something definite for the cultivator to go upon, and whatever policy the Government might enunciate, the revenue system must be amenable to the elected representatives of the ryot who pays the revenue tax.

" Passing on to the next item, the distressed condition of the agriculturists in our districts where the monsoon has failed, they are really suffering. The Hon. Minister for Revenue and the Secretary are perfectly aware that I have been bothering them that urgent relief is required at least in certain districts which have been affected very, very badly like South Arcot and Chingleput and even very seriously hit. There is almost a state of famine in those districts. I do not deny that the case is similar in other districts wherever the north-east monsoon has failed. The Government who are really interested in the people ought to go to the rescue of the people. So far the monsoon has failed from October and November and six months have elapsed but not a single order has been passed with a view to afford relief to the people. Things are going from bad to worse. What is the district administration doing? They fixed earlier days for the collection of kist. While the usual days are far, far away, they have fixed earlier days and they have taken more vigorous steps. The first, second and third instalments have been collected. There is one more instalment. I have been urging on the previous Governments that the periods of payment require revision. The Government as usual would ask the Board of Revenue —the Government, I am sure, would save much money if they accept the proposal to abolish the Board. On the report of the Revenue Board they merely say that it is impracticable to adopt the proposal. In fact, whereas in certain districts actually the period of payment of kists has been varied, it has not been done in others. I request the Hon. the Revenue Minister and his Secretary, if possible, to go to some of these districts and examine

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as to when exactly cultivation is begun, when harvesting is made and so on. I have no doubt they will be convinced that seasons have changed. We do not know why they have changed, as the ways of Nature are inscrutable. But the fact remains that the sowing, the transplantation and the harvesting seasons have all moved forwards and these operations now take place months later than in the old days. Harvesting, which was being done in the months of December and January, is now being done in the months of February and March. All the same the poor ryot is asked to pay the kist in January. He is unable to do this and in the result his movables are attached or his property is sold in auction.

"And, Sir, the manner in which these so-called auctions are held is deplorable. I do not think I have time to go into that just now, in any detail. But this much I may say that these auctions are a hole-and-corner business. Valuable lands are sold away without the knowledge of the cultivator or the owner or the mortgagor, without even issuing Form 5, Form 7 or Form 4 notice. The procedure prescribed for this purpose is set at nought and some revenue inspector or a glorified clerk goes and sits at some spot and simply announces that the lands have been sold and cooks up all the evidence necessary to show that there has been a valid sale and that the procedure laid down has been adhered to. Then, when the matter comes up before the Revenue Board nothing is done. The Revenue Board thinks that everything is quite in order and says that there is no reason to interfere. That is the short and simple answer which the appellant gets for all his labours.

"I want the Hon. Minister to examine the condition of the ryots in the villages which have been affected by the failure of the monsoon. Sir, there is not enough produce in certain districts for the consumption of the people. They have to get paddy from Madras and Rangoon. Sir, I may disclose in this connexion that I myself had this year to send bags and bags of rice from Madras to my village. Such a contingency has not happened in previous years. I want the Hon. Minister to realize what the condition should be in my village when I had to send home rice from Nellore and Madras. This state of affairs could not be called satisfactory. There are various ways for remedying the situation. But it is not for me to suggest ways and means by which relief could be afforded to affected districts. The Hon. Minister has a pretty big Department at his service and it is their duty to suggest measures to give relief. There are wells which can be dug and deepened. There are several tracts which have not been served with drinking water and there are numerous villages which have not been connected with the main trunk roads. Improvement of village communications should be taken on hand. There are various other things which the Government should do. Even the

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Charka programme which has been introduced in some villages has to be further extended and the handloom industry could be given a further impetus. These could be done with greater success in the villages I have mentioned. These are some of the things which the Government should look into.

"Then, Sir, I want to discuss the justice and the need for extending the revenue concessions to second crop and kasar cultivation. The Government have not explained the reason why the revenue concessions given are not to be extended to second crop and kasar cultivation. I have always held that the principle is the same, both for second crop and first crop. The main principle of assessment is there and it is applied to second crop and to kasar cultivation. When that is the case, when you allow land revenue remission to the first crop, why should you not allow the same concession to the second crop and to kasar cultivation? This year has been an abnormal year. Wherever the first crop failed, the cultivators with the help of lift irrigation and the like have been able to cultivate a second crop in dry lands or wet lands as the case may be. When wet crop is raised in dry land a heavy penalty is levied. Sir, wet cultivation failed for want of rains and then when wet crop is raised on dry lands it is penalized. Already the ryot is not able to pay the assessment on the first crop which has failed and he is in addition called upon to pay penalty for having tried to make good his loss to some extent. This is hardly fair. The second crop and kasar cultivation ought not to be excluded from the revenue concession allowed. I presume that the answer that I will get for my request is that if this is done more money will be required for the purpose of granting this remission. I submit, Sir, after all, the extent of second crop cultivation and kasar cultivation is very little compared to first crop cultivation. It will probably come to a few more lakhs of remission, say Rs. 10 or 15 lakhs. In fact, out of the Rs. 75 lakhs remission allotted, there is a saving of 10 or 15 lakhs every year. This, I suggest, may well be utilized for giving relief to the ryots engaged in second crop and kasar cultivation.

"Another submission I want to make in this connexion is that at any rate this year in view of the very distressing condition of the ryots no penal assessment should be levied for wet crop cultivation on dry lands.

"There is also justification for giving some concession in the matter of the water-rate. I will quote one instance for the information of the Hon. Minister. This year in my district there was a breach in the Tholudur Project over an extent of 400 yards and it has not been repaired by the Department. As a result instead of the usual 10 or 12 feet of water in the channels, there is only 2 feet of water. The entire crop in the ayacut therefore failed for want of sufficient water. First of all, there was failure

of monsoon and then when the cultivators wanted water most, the tank-bund gave way and almost all water was lost. When the ryots wanted the authorities to let them have the small quantity still left in the tank, the Department did not let them have it saying that if they let out water the tank will be further affected. Thus the cultivators lost the first crop on account of the failure of the monsoon and the second crop by the breach in the Project.

"Then, Sir, the revenue administration in the matter of the azmaish is another story. An azmaish takes place on three-anna crops and remissions or concessions are allowed. This time circulars seem to have been issued by the district authorities that even three-anna crops should not be given any concession. So that, what has happened is that the azmaish has taken place and all those areas which have been reported to have yielded a three-anna outturn will be excluded from remission. Those which are under three-annas will get remission and not the others. Sir, this will hit the poor ryots very hard. I do not know what orders of the Board of Revenue are responsible for the refusal of this concession to the three-anna crop cultivators which they have been getting as a *mamool* all these years. I submit such things ought not to be tolerated by a Government of the type that is in power now."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already spoken for sixteen minutes."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I shall finish soon. In the matter of the azmaish, the blunder that has been committed by the authorities in the South Arcot district with reference to the circular that has been issued that the three-anna outturn should be excluded, should be taken notice of by the Hon. Minister and relief given to the ryots who have suffered by reason of that circular. Sir, if it were known to the ryots that three-anna crops will be excluded from remission they would certainly have been more careful and would have seen to it that the crop raised was far less than 3 annas. Now to say that the three-anna crop would be excluded is to do the ryots a grave injury.

"In the matter of allowing the land revenue concessions, I want the Government to revise the principle of allowing land revenue concessions in the last kist that is payable by the ryot. That does not give any real relief to him. You squeeze out from him all that he has to pay at a time when he has not had time to carry the produce from the field. This goes on up to the time he has to pay his fourth instalment of kist. Do you know where he gets the money with which to pay his kist? He sells the produce at a time when the market is over-stuffed with grain and, as he gets only a very low price for his produce, he mortgages

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or sells away all that he possesses including his family jewels and pays the kist. You are allowing the remission only in the last instalment and, in the circumstances in which the average ryot is placed, the benefit that you grant him loses all its merit when it *reaches him ultimately. He is compelled* to sell his produce at a time when he does not get proper price and he borrows and pays interest. All this could be avoided and real benefit conferred on the ryot if in the January kist itself he is allowed the concession for which you have set apart Rs. 75 lakhs. I would request the Government to reconsider the position and issue orders."

5 * K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr.
1. Speaker, I have given notice of two cut motions under this Demand. One of them is to criticize the land assignment policy of the Government and the other is to criticize the Report of the Madras Estates Land Act Committee. So far as the first is concerned I do not think that I need take much of the time of the House, because my hon. Friend, Mr. Mir Akram Ali, has pointed out all the things that I wanted to. But one thing I wish to say while passing over. So far as the policy of land assignment is concerned, I feel that there is no room for making any kind of distinction between one community and another. Government should deem it their duty to assign lands to all poor people, irrespective of communal considerations. Sir, I should not be misunderstood to mean that I have got to say anything against the Harijan community getting special privileges from the Government. Certainly they deserve the best help that the Government can offer them. But my only plea is that the other poor people may also be taken into consideration, whether they be Christians or Mussalmans or belong to any other community. At this moment I am reminded of one instance. I know in my own district the case of a poor Muslim family, a family which once ruled Kurnool, but is now in poverty. These people who once ruled the principality of Kurnool now live in such a state of poverty that they are actually dying of starvation. People of such type certainly deserve the consideration of the Government and I therefore strongly appeal to the Government to do what they can to remove poverty from families like these.

" Sir, coming next to the discussion on the Estates Land Act Committee Report, I do not propose to enter into a detailed discussion because the time for it is gone. Nevertheless I think it is my duty to point out some of its salient points."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I suppose it is not in addition to what happened for thirty hours."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I hope so, Sir Before I actually come to that point, let me mention a few facts to point out how the question of land revenue occupies

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a very important position in our budgets. Sir, land revenue is the main source of our Provincial revenues. It is raised out of one our industries which can be called the staple industry and that is agriculture. It is collected from millions of those agriculturists who put their hard labour in addition to seeds in the soil and try to bring out something not only to feed themselves but to feed millions of those who live in this country. Unfortunately the position that they occupy in this land, the condition under which they live, is most horrible. Sir, it is a fact that these people are experiencing the miseries of starvation and poverty; that is the condition everywhere. They are Nature's children. Sometimes she smiles on them but very often she frowns on them. Then there are certain other difficulties under which they have to labour and one among them is the lack of marketing facilities. In addition to that there is fragmentation of holdings which has made their condition much worse. Difficulties like this they have been labouring under all along. It is not possible for the Government to remove all the difficulties by one stroke of the pen; it is impossible for any Government to do so. I admit the difficulty. But my only plea is that as far as possible these difficulties may be removed. The Government can provide certain irrigation facilities in parts of certain districts. Take the case of the Ceded districts. There has been the Tungabhadra Project for so many years. Time and again there have been discussions on this. We come here, listen to what the Ministers have to say and go away. Time and again we give notice of interpellations. The Ministers come and reply. But what is the ultimate effect? The ultimate effect is that a representative of the Government of Madras and a representative of the Government of Hyderabad meet. They come to some agreement and the agreement is lost somewhere and we do not know what it is. Sir, I am sorry to say that at this rate we cannot understand what the Government are going to do in this matter and how long the Government are going to wait to bring about or to execute this important Project. Sir, everyone in this Province knows the difficulty that we are labouring under. In spite of all these facts, the Government are not taking that keen interest in the subject which they ought to take. Sir, no purpose is served by representatives meeting at any particular place. No purpose is served by mere discussions unless some thing is done.

"Sir, I have drawn a very short sketch examining the condition of the poor ryot. I am unable to draw any distinction between the ryots of the ryotwari area and the ryots of the zamindari area. They are sailing in the same boat. Very recently the Government appointed a Committee to examine the condition of these poor people in the zamindari area and the Committee, after laborious investigations, has presented us with 18 volumes. The Committee

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in its report sought to place the entire blame at the door of the zamindar. It struck me as if the Committee was going to say that it was because of the zamindar that the ryot was suffering."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Does the hon. Member expect a reply to all this from the Revenue Minister? "

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" If the Minister is pleased to give."

MR. SPEAKER :—" So, an additional debate on the Estates Land Act Committee Report? "

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am not going to touch all the points covered by it in my speech, but I am going to touch certain additional and salient points. I was just now saying that on a perusal of the Report, it struck me as if the Committee was trying to put the entire blame on the zamindar. May I ask, Sir, if the zamindar is responsible for the sad plight of the tenant in the zamindari area, who is responsible for the plight of the ryot in the ryotwari area—is it the zamindar or the Government? Perhaps the Revenue Minister may say that it is not the Government. There have been so many factors that have transpired against the poor ryot. If that is the case in the case of the ryotwari ryot, I presume, Sir, that it must be the same in the case of the zamindari ryot also. Sir, while I agree with the main finding of the Committee regarding the proprietorship of the soil, I entirely disagree with it in the manner in which it wants to treat the zamindar. The Committee wants to improve the condition of the poor tenants at the cost of the zamindars. It is hard thing to do for anyone. It is much more hard for a rich man to be turned down all on a sudden and be left in misery. I want the Government to remember this important point when they draft any legislation on the subject of zamindaris. I appeal to them that they should not do injustice to another class of Indian community. I want the Government to look at both the sides of the picture. The zamindar has no doubt acted a Shylock here and there. But it seems to me that he has been also an Indian prince so far as the art, architecture and literature of the Province are concerned. He has rendered yeoman service to the Government in days gone by when the keeping of peace and order and farming of public revenues were a difficult task, a task which could not be performed by the Government of those days. Now that peaceful conditions are being restored, let not the Government imagine that the zamindar has no part to play in our public life. Let not the Government come to the conclusion that the zamindar need not in the future do any work and that he should make his exit. Sir, I am of opinion that if there should be any exit at all, there should be a graceful exit of the zamindar.

We need not be afraid that he would be in the field for ever. I am sure there will be a change for the better in the condition of the poor ryots in the zamindari area. Sir, it is my humble opinion that India has always been a land of changes: a land which has seen a change of rulers, a change of culture and a change of civilization. We no doubt expect another change, a change in the condition of these poor people. But it must not be at the cost of the zamindar. Sir, if I request the Government to do all that they can for the poor people of the zamindari area, it is, as I said, not at the cost of the zamindar, not by adopting the methods which have been suggested in the Report, and not by going out of the way in improving the condition of the poor ryot without having any regard for the other side.

"Sir, it is not for me to take much of the time of the House and I should not repeat the arguments used in the discussion the other day—I am afraid, a discussion for more than one day—which elicited so many observations from the hon. Members of this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Seven days!"

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am afraid any more effort at criticism may be regarded as repetition. So, with these observations, Sir, I support the cut motion."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Sir, I wish to raise the issue, viz., to discuss the policy of the present Government with reference to the assignment of lands to the depressed classes and the darkhast rules. When the present Government came into office we thought that they would pursue a more liberal policy in regard to the assigning of darkhast lands to the depressed classes. But I find that the system of assigning lands to the depressed classes has now come to a stand-still. I do not know whether my friend, the Hon. Mr. Prakasam—who is smiling, I suppose he will not smile it out—knows that at present all the applications that have been sent to the various District Collectors for the past about fifteen or sixteen months have been lying idle. When I question about them I am told that the present Government had issued certain Orders asking District Collectors not to assign these lands to depressed classes as the Government contemplate to revise the darkhast rules. Conceiving this idea of revising the darkhast rules, the Government have not done anything for the past eighteen months. I will request the Government to take immediate action in this matter and to see that these lands are given to the depressed classes as it had been in the past. I may also invite the attention of my Hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, to the fact that he himself visited a village called Thayyur in the Chingleput district and almost passed orders to assign lands to depressed classes there. But I am told even that application is still pending. Of course, I do not blame my friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, because

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it is not his portfolio. I have only to request my Hon. Friend, Mr. Prakasam to have a little more mercy on these poor souls who are now, in these hard days, suffering very much hardship and who must find a living. You all know, Sir, that the depressed classes are the real cultivators of the soil and they are expert cultivators. They are experts who will convert even the barren land into a productive soil. One way of ameliorating the condition of the depressed classes is by giving them darkhast lands free and thus helping them to eke out a living. That has been the consistent policy of the previous Governments and I hope the present Government will also continue that policy without any derangement.

"I understand that the present Government issued an Order on the 26th August 1937, informing the District Collectors that they were contemplating to revise the darkhast rules. In this connexion I would also request the Hon. the Minister for Public Information to issue a communiqué immediately stating the number of acres of land which have been given to the depressed classes on darkhast. I understand that in my own district of Chingleput, the extent that was given to the depressed classes previously in 1935–36 was 255 acres, but, in the year 1936–37, that is, in the year in which this Ministry came into power, it was only 47 acres. I am not going to dilate on this subject as I know my Hon. Friend, the Revenue Minister, is very sympathetic towards the aspirations of the depressed classes. I hope he will take immediate action in regard to this matter and rectify the mistake which he has been committing during the past eighteen months."

* SRI R. VENKATAPPA NAYUDU:—"Sir, in the matter of the collection of land revenue I would like to urge on the Government to make it a condition precedent that a demand notice should be served on the ryot stating the exact amount due from him. The necessity for this cannot be overestimated. Because in the case of joint pattadars, what exactly happens in places where there are unscrupulous village headmen, is that generally more than what is due from each of them is collected. In the case of all illiterate and ignorant ryots, the village officials generally collect more revenue than what is really due. Moreover many of the ryots do not know how to calculate the revenue for their own lands. I like to state that for the accurate collection of what is due from the ryots this alone will not solve the problem. I want the Government to make it compulsory on the part of village headmen to prepare receipts in triplicate forms for the revenue paid by the ryots, give one carbon copy of the same to the ryot and send another copy to the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer. Again, Sir, I bring to the notice of the Government the discretion that is vested in the Revenue officers with regard to the grant of remission sowing to failure

of crops under minor and major irrigation works. In the case of crops grown with water from minor irrigation works, whenever crops fail, the Tahsildar has got full discretion to grant remission. But according to the Board's Standing Orders as they stand at present, in the case of crops grown under major irrigation works, this discretion is restricted, because there is a presumption in the existing Standing Order that the ryot has failed to make use of the water available in the tank for irrigation purposes. I also wish to say in this connexion something about the policy pursued by the Government with regard to the repairs of minor irrigation works. I understand from the officers in charge of these works in my district that the ryots have to deposit a certain amount before any repairs are undertaken. For example, in Tadpatri taluk, there are small minor irrigation channels such as the Aluru, the Veerapuram and others which require minor repairs. The cost of repairing these channels will not exceed Rs. 3,000. But the Government want a deposit of Rs. 2,000 from the ryots as a condition precedent before repairs of such works are undertaken. I submit this is a wrong policy. Every year the Government are granting remissions in respect of lands not cultivated with crops. If the total amount of these remissions is calculated for a few years, it will amount to more than what the Government have to spend for repairing these channels. What I suggest to the Government is that they should spend this amount of Rs. 3,000 for repairing these channels and then collect that amount from the ryots in instalments along with the collection of land revenue.

"I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Minister, a few grievances of my district. Many memorials have been submitted to the Government by the ryots of Anantapur district urging that they should modify the water-rates in respect of lands irrigated by the channels of the river Pennar and its tributaries. I may state here that the ryots in order to get water for their lands have to scoop out sand up to a distance of three to four miles in the middle of the dry beds of these rivers; and this work they have to carry out up to a depth of ten to eighteen feet according to seasonal conditions. In any event, the ryot has to work for 140 days in the dry season and 120 days in the monsoon season on these channels and this labour when converted into cash would amount to nearly Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per acre on an average, while the yield from the second crop per acre will be practically worth nothing since it will not fetch more than Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 per acre. The rate of assessment for the water used by the ryots from these river channels is the same as that which is collected under the deltaic system. Here the Government do not spend any money or assist the ryot in any other manner in enabling him to get water for his land. This is rather unjust and does not tend to the

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improvement of the condition of the ryots. I suggest that the policy recommended by the Government in 1936 for the remission of water-rate for the second crop may kindly be given effect to.

" Sir, there is a greater grievance among the people of my district in respect of another matter. The Government have done great injustice to the people of Anantapur and Kurnool districts by the recruitment and the posting of revenue clerks, probationary revenue inspectors, deputy tahsildars and tahsildars from other districts to those districts. This has been done in spite of a number of graduates with 10 to 15 years' service still continuing as clerks in the Revenue Department of those districts and in spite of the fact that there are a large number of unemployed educated youths who ought to have been absorbed there. To add to the injury that has long been done to these districts in the past, it is unjust, doubly unjust, for the Government to have posted 3 deputy tahsildars and nearly 6 revenue clerks, and 2 deputy tahsildars and 8 revenue clerks to Kurnool and Anantapur, respectively, from those that were sent out on account of the formation of the Orissa Province. This will certainly mar the prospects of the people in my district who are already backward and who have been long neglected to a great extent. I suggest to the Government that people who have been recruited to these districts and who know the languages of the southern districts, at least some of them, may be transferred to these districts. The posting of these officers to our districts from Orissa is said to have been based on language question. In order to do full justice, it is but just that some of the officers who are working in our districts and who have been recruited from other districts must be transferred to their districts. If this is done, it will bring about equity and justice without detriment to the prospects of any people serving in any one district in this Presidency.

45 m. " Again, Sir, there are difficulties which the ryots of my district suffer in the matter of straw-yards. It is the policy of the Government to give preference in the assignment of village poramboke or gramanatham, to house-sites and not to sites for storing straw or fodder for cattle. The site for storing straw for cattle is quite as necessary for the ryot as finding good and water for human beings."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Is the hon. Member speaking in support of the cut motion? "

* Sri R. VENKATAPPA NAYUDU:—" I am giving a few suggestions."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is supporting the cut motion and giving a few suggestions."

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* Sri R. VENKATAPPA NAYUDU:—"No, Sir. I oppose the cut motion."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may go on."

* Sri R. VENKATAPPA NAYUDU:—"I urge upon the Government that a portion of the gramanatham should be granted to ryots for hayricks and that the ryots should not in any case be asked to remove their hayricks from these sites.

"Some hon. Members on the other side of the House have stated that the Government have been exacting in the matter of the collection of land revenue and urged that some leniency should be shown in the matter of collections. I beg to differ from them, Sir, for this reason. It is human nature to postpone things as long as possible. In the case of poor ryots, if the collection of land revenue is postponed, there is this danger that what has been saved by him for the payment of land revenue in time will be taken away by the money-lender. The result will be, when the time for the payment of land revenue arrives he will not be in a position to pay anything. With these remarks I oppose the cut motion."

* Sri R. M. PALAT:—"Sir, when the present Government of India Act came into force great hopes were raised among the people of this Presidency that there will be a considerable reduction in the land revenue assessment. That is to say, people thought that when their representatives were given full control over finance, they would take into account the hardships which the ryots suffer under the present land revenue system and do something to remedy the position. I want to point out to the Hon. the Revenue Minister the great unfairness in the matter of the incidence of taxation on the ryot. For instance, a person who gets an income of Rs. 2,000 a year from any source other than land pays nothing directly to the Government of the Province, but if a landowner gets even Rs. 10 from his land he is to pay something to the Government of Madras. Let us now compare how the incidence of taxation falls on people who get over Rs. 2,000 from land and on people who get over Rs. 2,000 from other sources. Let us take the Parliamentary Secretaries who get, I think, a pay of Rs. 250 a month which works out to Rs. 3,000 a year. Under the Income-Tax rules they pay roughly Rs. 102 to the Government of India; the actual amount is a little over Rs. 101. But if a ryot gets Rs. 3,000 from his land he has to pay in Malabar an assessment of roughly Rs. 720. That is to say, an actual cultivator who cultivates his land and gets an income of Rs. 3,000 from his land has to pay to the Government of Madras seven times the amount which a person who gets the same amount of income from other sources pays to the Government of India. There is this additional difficulty in

the case of the ryot. Bad seasons are not taken into account and nobody takes into consideration the fact whether he has been able to realize the income actually or not on the basis of which his land was assessed. If the land was assessed on an income of Rs. 3,000, whether the ryot actually gets that income or not or whether he is actually able to cultivate his land or not, he will have to pay the Rs. 720 to the Government, whereas in the case of the Parliamentary Secretary which I have mentioned, if he is not in service for one month, a proportionate reduction is made in his income-tax. Sir, I submit that we must have a fairer distribution of taxation and we must take into serious consideration the revision of the land revenue assessment.

"Let us now see what the Government have been getting from land in this Presidency. From page 21 of the Budget Memorandum we find that in 1933–34 the land revenue amounted to Rs. 680·54 lakhs, in 1934–35 it was Rs. 704·51 lakhs, in 1935–36 it was 730·52 lakhs while in 1936–37 it was 715·44 lakhs. For some of these years I have deducted Rs. 12 lakhs being the revenue derived from such parts of the Madras Presidency as were later on transferred to Orissa. For this year, 1937–38, the revenue is Rs. 758·44 lakhs. Therefore, Sir, although the remission of land revenue is said to be Rs. 75 lakhs, last year the Government got only Rs. 15 lakhs less from land in this Presidency than in the previous year. Again, Sir, the Marjoribanks Committee recommended that this remission of Rs. 75 lakhs should be given to such of the districts as were settled after the year 1914. So far as I know, the present Government have distributed the Rs. 75 lakhs to all the districts in the Presidency, although in the case of the districts which were settled after 1914, during the War years when the prices were high, the settlement rates also were very high. One would therefore have naturally expected that in the case of those districts greater remissions would have been given. I think it was in reply to a question of mine that the Hon. the Revenue Minister said that to a certain extent there has been failure of crops in Malabar. But no special remissions have been given on that account to those taluks in Malabar where the crops have failed. Again, Sir, although the recent settlement in Malabar purported to increase the rates only by $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, actually the increase was more than 100 per cent in some cases. This is due to the reclassification of land in the first instance and then to the $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent increase. This reclassification is entirely unjustifiable because according to the revenue rules there can be no reclassification unless the improvement in the land is due to some action taken by the Government such as giving a further water-supply or some such thing. Here in Malabar improvement in the nature of the land was entirely due to the efforts of the ryot and no part of it was due to the help rendered by the Government.

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But in complete disregard of the revenue rules the reclassification has been made and on top of this there has been an increase of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The result is that in certain parts of the district—I can give particular instances if the Hon. the Revenue Minister wants—the increase in land revenue has been more than 100 per cent.

"Again, Sir, I think it was the Hon. Mr. Rajagopalachariar who said during the last Budget debate that we cannot have reduction in taxation and at the same time give further amenities to the people. I certainly agree with that proposition, Sir. But if the Government are going to waste their revenues on schemes like Prohibition, I certainly think that they are not justified in saying that they cannot reduce land revenue.

"Again, Sir, there is one other point on which I believe Mr. Appadurai Pillai spoke, and that is with regard to colonies for the educated unemployed. I do not know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that the Travancore Government have actually put into effect such a scheme. Perhaps our Government here may go into that matter and see how that scheme is worked so that they may start similar schemes here for the educated unemployed and for the landless depressed classes who are most of them merely labourers and not cultivators who own their lands."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Revenue Minister will now reply."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to speak only for a few minutes although I have not given notice of any cut motion."

Sri Nagappa also rose from his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Ahmed Batcha may speak. Mr. Nagappa will leave the reply to be given by the Hon. Minister."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a point in the course of this debate, though not for discussion in this House, at least for the purpose of drawing the attention of the Government; and that is with regard to the exchange policy of the Government of India. There has been a decided failure on the part of this Government to bring this issue before the Government of India and press it for a solution as the interests of the agriculturists are really involved in this question.

"Sir, it is very clear that any wealth that is to come into our 6 p.m.
country should be by way of export of our produce to outside our borders; the wealth realized by the export of produce brings prosperity not only to the persons that export the produce but also to the middlemen, and ultimately to the agriculturists. There has been a great deal of talk of doing benefit to the agriculturist; every body that stands up one after another raises this question of doing benefit to the agriculturists. But nobody has pointed out

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that we are seriously handicapped by the wrongful policy of exchange that is followed by the Central Government. Sir, it may be argued that it is not the concern of the Provincial Government, but it is entirely a matter in the hands of the Central Government; but I may humbly submit to the House . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the speaker want the Minister in charge to deal with the exchange policy of the Government of India in his reply to these remarks?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This Government are competent to bring pressure upon the Central Government and raise this issue very seriously with them. Why, it has been the accepted policy of the Congress Governments in the various provinces in India that this should be . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the hon. Member think that his speech with regard to exchange and all that will be appropriate under Demand No. I?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Perfectly so, Sir. As a matter of fact, in dealing with the Estates Land Act Committee Report, the Hon. Minister had mentioned something about exchange, but he did not say anything about the policy of the Central Government; he referred to it because it is known that this Government must have some influence upon the Central Government. This Government should realize that fact; and it is a clear failure on their part . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In that case, you say that the policy of this Government with regard to the exchange policy of the Government of India should be made clear on this Demand No. I by the Hon. the Minister in his reply to your speech. That is the position."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to bring it to the notice of this House that the Government have not done their part in bringing this issue before the Government of India; otherwise, our revenues would have improved and there would be less arrears of collection; the hardships of the agriculturists would have been less and they would be more prosperous. This exchange policy brings on a difference in turnover of about 2½ per cent of the entire volume of export from this country. Is it not to the benefit of the agriculturists? The Government say that Rs. 7 crores comes in as land revenue, that land revenue is the first item of their income, etc. All this talk is quite all right; but look at the loss we are sustaining by allowing 12½ per cent of income to be reduced on account of this exchange policy. It is a serious matter. If this is remedied, it will be to the benefit of the agriculturists. No doubt the Government of India may also argue that it is for the benefit of the agriculturists that they are maintaining the present rate of exchange. But it is certainly a serious . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I think the hon. Member must realize that we cannot have a decision . . ."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I think, Sir, we will have to press this cut motion, at least for the purpose of showing that the Government have not carried out their duty by bringing pressure upon the Central Government and by raising this issue with them. This Government have been raising only minor issues; if it is a question of the release of prisoners, or if it is a question of . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You are only giving a great opportunity to the Hon. Minister in charge to speak probably for two or three hours by way of reply on this point and under this Demand."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If the Hon. the Revenue Minister will say that the Government's attention has been drawn to this aspect of the matter and that this view will be placed before the Central Government and that it will be pressed, it will be a sufficient assurance. We do not want him to make a speech; if he can give us an assurance, that will be sufficient."

* MR. SPEAKER:—" An assurance can be given only by way of a speech."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I think there is a chapter in the Estates Land Act Committee Report on this matter."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" But it has not been discussed in this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think you have drawn attention to it now with great emphasis."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" This cut motion should be passed if not on any other consideration at least in consideration of the benefits that will accrue to the agriculturists."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister for Revenue will now reply.

" I find that the Deputy Speaker as well as all the members of the Panel of Chairmen are absent from the House. I therefore move from the Chair itself that Sri Konda Venkatappayya may occupy the Chair and I suppose that the House carries the motion. I request Sri Konda Venkatapayya to take the Chair."

(Sri Konda Venkatappayya then occupied the Chair amidst applause.)

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Sir, I must thank the hon. Members who have spoken on the cut motions for the gentle manner in which they have opposed the Demand and also for some of the points which they have made out for the consideration of the Government. The hon. Mr. Appadurai Pillai made a long

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speech and dealt with points which he considered very important. I stated at the very outset that the Government would not take a long time to place their proposals before the House in the form of a Bill. On previous occasions I had referred to the Punjab system, and some reference was also made to it now. This is not the first time that the Punjab system has come up for consideration before this Government. It was done in the past also before we came into office, but it was dropped. At that time, there was not a developed sliding scale system; but after examination during the last few years, a sliding scale system was developed in the Punjab and actually put into force in two districts there; and from the reports that have been received, we have reasons to consider that the adoption of a similar system in this Province also might be beneficial to the people. But we do not wish to take any hasty step in that direction. The Parliamentary Secretary and myself visited that area and examined, within the short time available, certain points with the help of the Revenue Minister of that Province and also of his officers. We examined not only the Government position but also the opposition to the system introduced there. After coming here and after examining the whole position we could see that as between the land revenue system in the Punjab and the land revenue system here in Madras, there are differences in fundamentals themselves, and therefore it was that we could not think of adopting any part of that sliding scale system here. We have come to certain conclusions on that point also, and I may indicate that it is not likely that we will introduce the sliding scale system on the lines adopted in the Punjab. The reasons will be given when the whole thing is ready. I merely submit to the consideration of hon. Members that so far as that system is concerned, we are not in favour of introducing it *en bloc* here.

" Having done with that, the other system or proposal that has come up for consideration before this House is the scheme proposed by the Marjoribanks Committee. Criticism has been levelled against land revenue concessions or remissions being given as a temporary measure; and it has been urged by the hon. Member, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, and some other hon. Members that the country should not be left in suspense under these temporary remissions, but that they should take a permanent shape. On that particular point, I may mention to the hon. Members of this House that it is not the intention of the Government to leave the concessions or remissions as merely temporary ones. They will become permanent, but not permanent in the sense of a permanent settlement or an unalterable agreement; because here in this respect the matter is between the Government on the one side and the ryot on the other; there is no intermediary between the two; there is no permanent settlement agreement or contract entered into by which the Government can be bound; and even if there might

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be a permanent settlement at any time, the sovereign power of the Government is such that it would be varied when the circumstances demand it. Therefore, I say that these remissions would be permanent in the sense that they would not be altered periodically in the name of settlement or resettlement or any such thing. The enhancements, the remission of enhancements, the cancellation of enhancement and those that take the form of remissions which are given and ushered in as temporary remissions will be, when the measure is placed before the House, permanent. About the details of these, I should not state anything now, because as we are proceeding with the examination we are discovering certain matters and certain positions which have been helping us in arriving at a true and correct basis.

" Sir, the second matter that I would submit to the House on behalf of the Government is about the future. The present proposals, when they are ready, will be embodied in a bill and would be placed before the House. As regards the future variation of the assessment that will be fixed under the bill, no variation either for enhancing or for decreasing will be done by the Government in an executive capacity, but it will be brought before the House for its sanction and the variation will be made by the House when circumstances demand it.

" The third point is about the recommendations of the Marjoribanks Committee that all the resettlement enhancement made after the year 1914 should be cancelled. If it were free from difficulty, we would not have taken time on this matter either. The Marjoribanks Committee Report was made ready within a very short time that was at their disposal. When 1914 was fixed as the year, they based it ostensibly on the ground that it was the year of the Great War, that it was the year in which the prices had gone high and that the prices in the years that preceded 1914 were normal or lower. If that were so, 1914 would be a proper starting point; if it were not so, that is, if the rise of prices or the boom did not start in 1914 only, but it had started some years before that as the years of preparation for the war, the basic principle adopted by the Marjoribanks Committee on the basis of 1914 cannot be sustained. We have been examining the position in that respect and we have been able to arrive at some resnlts, which are being still further tested, so that what is demanded by some of the hon. Members as a true, scientific and reasonable basis, is arrived at by us; and we have every hope, that when the whole scheme is got ready and placed before hon. Members of this House, they will be able to see that we have not taken time in vain but that we have done our best to do what is most advantageous to the ryots in the ryotwari areas also.

" Sir, some reference was made to the Estates Land Act Report and the anxiety of the Government to help the ryot in the estates. I may assure hon. Members that ever since this Government came

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into office it has been the anxiety of the Government to see that equal justice is done to the ryots in the ryotwari areas as well (hear, hear); and that equal justice is done not only in the ryotwari areas, as the term is ordinarily understood to apply to all the districts other than Malabar, but that even in Malabar, matters are examined as closely as possible and proper relief is given to the ryots under the Malabar tenures.

" It was pointed out that only 71 and odd lakhs had been distributed last year and the same amount is proposed to be distributed even this year. That had been done as a temporary measure—and they were known also as temporary remissions—but when we are fixing up not mere remissions but fixing up the rate which would not be altered except by this House by removing all the enhancements that had been made in the past by way of resettlements the Government would take particular care to see that there would be no attempt to make any saving out of this amount. The distribution of the concessions made hitherto also was not on a recognized basis, recognized principle. We have been searching and working for that recognized basis and recognized principle; and we believe that we have arrived at the stage at which we could say that we are within a reasonable reach of it. That is why I am anxious not to commit myself now as to the exact position, although we have got our figures there, so that what will be assured to the ryots under the Government is placed before you in a general way by me so far as the policy of the Government is concerned.

" I believe it was the hon. Member, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, that referred to the half-net basis of calculation. The half-net basis of calculation or any other calculation that may have been taken into account until now, would not remain intact when all these proposals are formulated and placed before the House. The basis has already been shaken when the remissions—though called temporary—had been sanctioned. Every point referred to and every basis upon which the old rates had been levied and enforced, they all undergo complete alteration. The Government, as constituted to-day, are anxious that while they should do justice to the ryot by removing the burden under which he has been suffering, the Government should not be left penniless. While the Government are anxious to get revenue from the land, they are equally anxious to see that justice is done even in the matter of this scheme of the ryotwari land revenue policy, in the same manner in which it has been attempted in the zamindari areas. When the details are placed before the hon. Members of this House, they will be able, I am sure, to appreciate the time taken and the labour involved in the same.

" Sir, some reference was made to the Hon. the Prime Minister's statement made long ago, that we, Members of the Government,

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were not experts. It is a fact that we were not experts and so he said that. Even though he was not an expert in the art of administration when he formed this Government, he has been showing to the hon. Members of this House and to the country how he has been excelling himself and even the experts who may have gained so much experience during these long years. (Sri Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai: Hear, hear.)

"It is uncharitable that we should have been reminded of a statement made at the outset about eighteen months ago. It has also been pointed out that there should not be varied taxation and also that there must be an exemption from land tax when the income is less than, say Rs. 2,000 as is the case with income-tax. We have known all about that, and anybody who has seen the various taxation proposals that have been brought before the House knows that I am not making rather an extravagant claim. If only we succeed in our attempts, if only we succeed in finding ways and means of getting money from those who can afford to pay to the Government to carry on the administration, this Government will not hesitate to reduce the land tax still lower. This country of ours has gone the wrong way for a very long time. 6-30 p.m. Land has been overtaxed—whether it is Government land or whether it is zamindari land, it makes no difference. It is a fact there has been over-assessment and it was because of that over-assessment that when the economic depression overtook this country and when matters came to the breaking point, this had to be resorted to. They were called temporary remissions. The Marjoribanks Committee within the few months they sat, worked out and produced certain proposals but they could not put them into proper shape for they had not enough time to examine the whole thing as I have already indicated. I may reiterate, Sir, that if we succeed in getting money from those who could ungrudgingly pay for the carrying on of the administration of the Government, the ryots would be relieved. There is no good in making mere speeches. It is not easy to re-adjust the administration of Government by changing the land revenue system outright and making concessions all at once.

"Some reference was made to the scheme of Prohibition. I assert that no greater good could be done by the Government in any country in any other part of the world than the introduction of Prohibition. The result may not be apparent to them; but to doubt its good and to think in terms of the loss is, I submit, uncharitable. As for the good flowing from its introduction, the Hon. the Prime Minister has said so much in defence of it that I need not repeat it. It is sufficient to say that the scheme has become a success. Hon. Members have been saying that because of the loss of revenue on account of Prohibition, we have not been able to reduce this tax. I must submit to the Hon. House that in addition

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to the introduction of Prohibition, we are doing our best at the same time to shift the burden of taxation from the shoulders of the ryot to the utmost limit without any stint.

" Sir, Mr. Appadurai Pillai referred to the land assignment policy of the Government. This had not been dealt with at any length until now. Land assignment policy was made clear soon after we came into office by putting a ban on the assignment of waste lands because it was the belief of the Government that assignment of waste lands was not real assignment in favour of the poor people. My hon. Friend, Mr. M. C. Raja has referred to it and other hon. Members pointed out the need for the assignment of land for poor Muslims. We have not stated when we put the ban on the assignment that it was for the benefit of the Harijans only, or that it was for the benefit of the Muslims only, or for any particular class. I have known the condition of the poor class amongst all communities. Pointed reference was made and rightly— and I congratulate the hon. Member who made reference to it—to the fragmentation of holdings. There is a considerable misconception about this question of fragmentation. In some provinces, attempts were made to prevent fragmentation. Here also long before this Government assumed office, an expert was sent to the Punjab to study the methods adopted there and to have the proper data as to what constitute an economic holding. I would ask, 'What is an economic holding?' Some hon. Members, if they were asked about it, would say that at least 25 or 30 acres would be the economic holding for the maintenance of a poor man and his family. But I for one would never endorse it. In the course of my travels, I have gone into the midst of people themselves and I have found that there are men who have sold their body and soul for one or two rupees a month. They ask for one acre, or if the land is not good, for two acres and they consider that to be enough for maintaining themselves and their families and further they are ready to give an undertaking that they would cultivate and live upon that, and further that they would not alienate it. It is the intention of the Government by the ban that they put that care should be taken to see that these unfortunate men who put forward the applications and in whose name lands are given, would not lose their lands again. The man is given the land and the money-lender is there to take it off him as soon as the assignment is made. The land does not belong to him and the money-lender only waits for some time till he may get something in his name which he can make over to the money-lender for the money he had advanced. It is in that way that the poor landless men of this country, to whatever community they may belong, have come to that position; it is in that way that agricultural lands have passed into the hands of a few rich people and other land grabbers. It is with a view to prevent such things that this ban has been put. The Government were aware, when

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that ban was put, that some difficulty was felt by poor people by not having had lands assigned immediately. But that difficulty is not much when compared with the fact that they must lose it shortly after the assignment is made. Virtually the land does not belong to him; it belongs to the other man who only waits till he gets an assignment to pounce upon it and take it from him. It is because of that that this policy had been adopted. We had put a general restriction but later it was relaxed, so as to enable restricted assignment looking into the conditions of the applicant; but even with regard to such assignments, there was a restraint upon alienation. It was in that manner that we expected to do some good to the poor landless people who have become labourers and who expect some day to become landowners in a limited sense.

"Mr. Appadurai Pillai referred to the extent of lands. It was given in reply that the arable land forms an extent of 871,000 acres. Then reference was made to the administration report according to which there are eleven million acres of land. I wish to explain that there is no anomaly about this eleven million acres. 1,616,000 acres are given as the area available for easy cultivation. Out of this, 745,281 acres are reserved for the scheduled classes. Of this, 417,793 acres have already been disposed of."

Sri Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah:—"May I know when, Sir?"

* The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—"Up to fasli 1346; or rather I will give the year, as I am not certain about the fasli; it is up to the year 1936. So, the balance after deducting 745,281 acres is 871,000, and this was shown as cultivable waste; and the 11 millions of acres shown in the administration report includes hills, jungles, forests and others. Therefore that should not be confounded with this. I may also mention to hon. Members of this House that these figures stated here, either in the administration report in the past or even in other reports should not be taken as conclusive. Within the short experience of 18 months after assuming office, I have come to know of areas available for easier cultivation, but which were not shown in the Government accounts or taken into account in other reports. I have gathered this information from petitions presented by people, from people who have actually taken me to the actual place and shown me the very place available for easier cultivation."

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* Sri Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai:—"If I may interrupt the Hon. Revenue Minister, may I explain my position with reference to the extent of land available for cultivation? The Hon. Revenue Minister says that the eleven million acres shown as cultivable waste consists of hills and forests. It is not so. It will be seen from the Season and Crop Report, page 3, deductions are definitely made for all this. Forests constitute 16.5

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per cent of the total area. The total area of the Presidency is 79 millions acres. Of this, forests as I stated constitute 16·5 per cent as against 15·4 per cent of the previous year. The area not available for cultivation forms 18:3 per cent of the total area; the area available for cultivation is 52 millions of acres, of which 18:2 per cent was fallow as in the previous year; 20·2 per cent was other cultivable waste, and the rest was cultivated, and that is 32 millions of acres. The area naturally cultivated was 40:1 per cent of the total area as against 39·6 per cent in 1936–37. That shows that after making deductions of all the unavailable area such as hills and porambokes, the area assignable or that can be occupied for the purpose of cultivation, was put down somewhere between ten and eleven million acres, and that is the figure that has been reproduced in the administration report, and this is the figure shown in the Season and Crop Report. I request that this point may be looked up."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I have tried to explain the position. If there should be eleven million acres, the Government will jump at it and will avail themselves of that land for distribution purposes. I am anxious, in fact we are anxious to find more land which has not been noticed in the administration report; and if such land is available we will take all that land and distribute it. I thank the hon. Member for the suggestion made by him. I have only tried to explain the position. All land which is not patta or poramboke is shown as assessed or unassessed waste; even hilly land is shown as waste. These lands, it will be admitted, will become cultivable only at enormous cost after reclamation. Such lands were not taken into account when 16 lakhs was given as easily cultivable land, and that was divided into two parts. We shall examine this and try to find out the land that is cultivable and distribute that.

"As I was telling hon. Members of the House, I have found in some instances that the information given by the ryots in their petitions and memorandum is quite new; it is not found in the Government records. In some areas even the district officers were showing certain areas which could be brought under cultivation; but the other day, we went to a certain taluk and found that there is so much of land that could be brought under cultivation, and it has been lying waste for centuries together, but this was not shown in the Government records. In another area where we had been, we found similar large extents of area available. It is for that reason we have called for the information from all the districts, and we have not received all the information until now. This colonization scheme is so dear to this Government that we are anxious to put it into force as early as possible.

"With regard to the ryot's distress and his troubles, more especially at the hands of the money-lenders, the Government

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have not been idle. Although they could not take the step when the Debt Relief Act was passed, they have been on the same subject. They have formed a committee to revise the whole of the Co-operative Societies Act, the whole system itself and reconstruct it, if possible, on a proper basis, which would give relief to the ryot not only with regard to the payment of his land revenue but also for every need of his while he lives in the village without going to the Marwari sowcars or to banks in distant places to borrow funds. That committee will be starting work very soon, and when that report comes and when that system is introduced, then the ryot will be within the proper reach of relief. No banks established in Madras, no scheduled banks, no money-lender can give real relief to the cultivator to-day. Relief to him cannot be brought by any means except through the new system of co-operative societies that the Government are intending to establish.

"It was pointed out, Sir, that porambokes are being sold, and that should be prevented. Well, when the land assignment itself has been stopped, there can be no assignment of any poramboke; and since the date of the ban no poramboke has been sold except stealthily and dishonestly, and when such things come to the notice of Government they take steps to put a stop to them. Tanks were sold, and various other attempts have been made to convert porambokes or to treat porambokes as private land and sell them. Steps have been taken to prevent all these things, and in the future legislation there will be provision made—and your assent will be asked for that—to treat porambokes, that had been tampered with and converted into private property, as public property, and that the man who has taken possession of such things should be divested of them. All attempts will be taken to prevent such things.

"Unemployment will be relieved. That unemployment should be relieved is one of the subjects that should agitate the mind of every one of the hon. Members of this House and every one of us on this side. Government themselves are considering how best this unemployment could be relieved. I may say, Sir, taking this opportunity, that there are lands in areas to which the ordinary man will not dare to go, but all the same there is virgin soil there. There are the Agency tracts where the land is the best possible that one can think of. Except for the fact that there is malaria, there is no other defect there. I would suggest this to the educated classes, who would be wandering for the sake of employment, from office to office making applications. One hon. Member here had the goodness to spend some time upon the transfer of revenue inspectors from one district to another and the amount of money given by way of travelling allowances to them, and he asked if a few persons cannot be appointed for that sum of money. He asked how many revenue inspectors' offices there are, how many clerks' offices and other offices there are. And he asked, cannot these give food to the millions of people who are without employment to-day?" I submit these things will not give anything. If

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all hon. Members do their very best to see that this anxiety to get into service by applying either to Government or to any other man is diverted to other avocations, and particularly to the land which is available and which can be colonized and occupied by educated men, then most of this unemployment problem can be solved. Englishmen have occupied areas which have been abandoned; they have gone to distant places in other parts of the globe and settled there. But what have our people done, except applying to one merchant after another for some appointment, or to this Government and that, or this officer and that? This bent of mind must change. This Government will do their best to give employment if there are avenues open. In fact, we are anxious, Sir, that we should do all that is necessary to improve the condition of the people.

" Reference was made to irrigation. It was said that irrigation has been neglected. Irrigation had been neglected not by this Government; irrigation had been neglected for a century and a half; this Government have been anxious to take it up. But you complain, 'You have introduced Prohibition and so you have not got money.' By introducing Prohibition you have got a thousand advantages, which you are not able to realise to-day.

" It will relieve unemployment and the hon. Members of this House on the other side and on our side should do our best to give relief. When I say these things I do not mean to dissuade people from seeking service anywhere. There will be people seeking service and there must be people also to seek service. But they must be limited and we have to develop other industries and other occupations to solve the unemployment problem. I refer to the educated men, because, the hon. Mr. Appadurai Pillai said that 'educated men would not go to the land; educated men have been taught in schools to seek only service and so they will not go to land.' It is for them and for all such people that our Government are anxious that everything should be made, not by way of giving some employment here or some employment there, but by compelling them, if it were possible to do, to take a few acres of land for cultivation, even if it be in distant places where ordinary people would not go. Recently,
1. Sir, I happened to go to the upper reaches of the Godavari river—which I ought to have known long ago having belonged to that place, but it was a revelation to me that there was a country like that—where it was said, that, if ever a man went, he would never return. An educated gentleman dissuaded the man who was accompanying me saying that he would not return if he went there. It is in that condition that the country is and our friends are. There you find the lands available, everything is good there. Malaria, we complain of. Malaria is more in the Mylapore streets than perhaps in those places, if you consider the mosquito that harasses you and if you do not have the protection against it.

Then reference was made to reclassification, and cultivation of tank-beds and all that. The Government are anxious to do all

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they can to see that all these things are rectified. The reclassification of irrigation sources is engaging the attention of the Government. That is why the land revenue policy could not be proceeded with straightaway as if it were one item covered only by the Marjoribanks' Committee Report. The other items that are not covered by the Marjoribanks' Committee Report are being examined by the Government and they will all take their proper place when the proposals are brought before the House.

" The hon. Member Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan referred to the minor irrigation scheme. Minor irrigation scheme, Sir, I said already on the floor of the House must be carried under an Act, the Kudimaramat Act. That Act did not function properly and it became a dead letter. Another hon. Member here referred to the contribution system that was introduced on the top of the Kudimaramat Act under which an inducement was given to the ryot. It is not necessary that the ryot should pay the whole of the amount for the kudimaramat work. The ryot should give a portion of it and the balance would be paid by the Government. Even that inducement would not bring him out. So, as I said already, both the Kudimaramat Act and the contribution system had already failed. The minor irrigation scheme must be overhauled and we have been anxiously considering about that. Why this condition was brought about in this country, I do not understand. The Government cannot be blamed. The Government had been cast in one mould and that Government had been functioning until one and a half years back in a particular manner. It is only now that there has been some change. Why has the Kudimaramat Act failed? Why has the ryot become such a hardened man? It is the duty of the ryot to do all the minor repairs with regard to his land, and make all the facilities for his own land. The ryot has become so useless; he does not think of his own interests. He thinks that the Government take away money and that it is the duty of the Government to do minor repairs also. I have been telling everywhere, wherever I got at these people, that it is their duty to protect the minor irrigation in toto. It is their duty to see that Government's permission is got to carry out these things. They have become dead to human instinct. Human instinct is dead in them because of the system of Government under which they had been and the sufferings which they had suffered. Now, it is taking time for us to make these people realize that they must get back their human instinct which has disappeared from them. They should not stand aside to-day. They should not ask the Government to get everything for them to be put at their doors so that they might live comfortably. Their comforts can be looked after only when these people are able to manage their own affairs like the kudimaramat, minor irrigation work, or any other work which they have to do within their own areas. So far as the revenue system is concerned, I can say on behalf of this Government that the time will come when the people will be able to

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realize that they will be able to undertake the task of carrying on the work themselves without looking to the Government. The Government are called upon to pay the money. Where is the money to come from unless the poor man is taxed? Now we are beginning to tax people who have not been taxed hitherto, so that they may also help the administration of the Government and so that they may help the poor people who have been paying the money even when they were not able to pay.

" The hon. Member Mr. Krishna Rao referred to the Reserve Bank, their refusal to help the ryots and the failure of the co-operative societies. I have already explained the position of the co-operative societies and what steps the Government have taken to correct that system entirely. But the position as regards the Reserve Bank is like the exchange policy about which the hon. Member, Mr. Ahmed Batcha Sahib, was very anxious to refer. (An hon. Member: 'You are equally anxious.') I am anxious also. We are anxious that this Provincial Autonomy should become a real one and not be in the truncated position in which it is to-day. We know that the agriculturist suffers on account of this exchange policy. If it could be measured in pounds, shillings and pence, or rupees, annas and pies, then the amount would be so colossal that many would be able to understand how the loss has been sustained and how the loss is borne by people who could not bear it. Let us hope there will be a time when this matter would be set right. I have got a real hope, I may say, Sir, to this hon. House, I have every hope that if this Government function, they would be able to know how they would carry on the administration by undertaking that one item that is given in List II of Schedule VII of the Government of India Act, regulation of production, distribution and sale of commodities in this country and this area of ours. We will be able to do that, but that is possible only when all the hon. Members of this House are ready to put their shoulders to it and the ordinary people are ready to undertake responsibilities themselves.

" Mr. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu complained that there was no uniform distribution made in the land revenue concessions. It is impossible to think of a uniform distribution in the land revenue concessions of the past or in the arrangement that would be made in the future. The revenue administration of this Presidency was not uniform. Things were not done in one day. The differences are so clear in so many places. It has to be placed according to the desire of the hon. Members of this House on a scientific basis, on a sound and reasonable basis. Wherever it has gone wrong we have to set it right. It must be on a basis which cannot be challenged by anybody as incorrect or inequitable.

" One cut motion has been given notice of to discuss the steps taken on account of the failure of the monsoon. I am afraid, Sir, if I should describe the steps that were taken, the House will have

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to sit long. I do not think that in the past any Government had attempted to do what this Government had tried. No satisfaction can be given even when everything has been done, because it is impossible to give relief to the sufferers to the extent to which they have suffered. When everything has been washed away, when the crop that was ready, cut and heaped was washed away, what relief can be given to him by any Government? But yet, the moment 7–15 p.m. the reports came here, the Government lost no time in attempting to do everything.

(At this stage the Speaker resumed the Chair.)

"There is another cut motion given notice of by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed to discuss the condition of the agriculturists in the districts where monsoon has failed and to urge upon speedy measures being taken to relieve suffering. In December 1938—I request the attention of the hon. Members particularly to this, because, this will give some idea—it was brought to the notice of the Government that seasonal conditions were unsatisfactory in parts of the following districts owing to the failure of the north-east monsoon:—

(1) Cuddapah.
(2) Chittoor.
(3) Nellore.
(4) North Arcot.
(5) Chingleput.
(6) Salem.
(7) South Arcot.
(8) Coimbatore.
(9) Trichinopoly.

The Government obtained detailed reports on the seasonal conditions in these districts. These districts were also visited by the Land Revenue Commissioner and Settlement Commissioner during the end of December 1938. In addition to the above districts, reports of unsatisfactory seasonal conditions have also been received in respect of parts of the following districts:—

(1) Kurnool.
(2) Anantapur.
(3) Ramnad.
(4) Madura.
(5) Tinnevelly.

"The various relief measures sanctioned for these districts except for Coimbatore district are summarized below under the following heads:—

(1) Postponement of the collection of land revenue.

(2) Remission of land revenue.

(3) Provision of works.

"I. (1) *Postponement of the collection of land revenue—Kurnool district.*—The collection of February kist has been postponed to March 1939 in 13 villages of the Sirvel taluk and six villages of the Markapur taluk. The reports since received show that no further concessions are necessary.

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Anantapur district.—The Board of Revenue has directed that the collection of the February kist of the dry assessment in 80 villages of Penukonda, 61 villages of Hindupur and six villages of Anantapur taluks of the Anantapur district should be postponed to March 1939. It is also proposed to remit a part of the assessment in these villages. The December kist in the Kadiri taluk was postponed to January 1939.

Chittoor.—The collection of December kist in the taluks of Chittoor, Chandragiri, Madanapalli and Vayalpad was postponed to January 1939. The Commissioner of Land Revenue after personal discussion with the Collector found that no further postponement was necessary.

Trichinopoly.—The collection of assessments in respect of dry lands in 81 villages of the Karur taluk and in 19 villages of the Trichinopoly taluk has been postponed to fasli 1349. The amount involved has been estimated at Rs. 2,58,000.

Tinnevelly.—The collection of February and March kists in the Sankarankoil taluk has been postponed to April and June, respectively. The collection of February kist in the Koilpatti taluk has been postponed to June 1939.

" II. (2) *Remission of land revenue—Chingleput.*—It is observed from reports received that the Collector has submitted proposals regarding remission of land revenue in the district and that they are under the consideration of the Board of Revenue.

Anantapur.—The Board of Revenue has submitted proposals for the remission of dry assesssment in 80 villages of Penukonda, 61 villages of Hindupur and six villages of Anantapur. The proposals involve a remission of Rs. 32,750 and a suspension of Rs. 26,550. It is proposed to accept the Board's proposals.

" III. (3) *Provision of works—Cuddapah.*—The Collector has applied for a grant of Rs. 15,000 to the district board for repairing roads. This is being considered in the Local Administration Department.

The Collector has also proposed to take up the work of sinking wells in 15 villages in the areas affected by the adverse seasonal conditions in preference to other works included in the current year's programme of the comprehensive scheme of the rural water-supply. This is being considered in the Public Health Department.

Nellore.—The Collector has applied for a total grant of Rs. 1,07,000 to the district board for starting 13 road works from 1st April 1939. This is being considered separately.

For other areas which are affected and for which minor irrigation works can be provided, the Collector is having estimates for minor irrigation works sanctioned.

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Chittoor.—An allotment of Rs. 15,000 has been made to the district board for starting road works in the Kalahasti taluk.

Chingleput.—The Collector has been asked to move the district board to start road works in the affected areas. The Collector has also been informed that he may take up repairs to kudimaramat works to provide employment, and he has also been told that if there are no other forms of generally useful work available, employment may also be provided by the repair of wholly or partly proprietary irrigation works.

Madura.—The district board has been permitted to divert Rs. 25,000 from the Railway Cess Fund for taking up road works in the affected areas.

Ramnad.—The district board has been permitted to divert Rs. 2 lakhs from the Railway Cess Fund for road works for providing employment for labourers. The proposal of the Collector for the grant of Rs. 20,000 for repairing Public Works works is separately under consideration in Public Works.

" 2. In connexion with the land revenue concessions for fasli 1348, reports were called for from the Collectors regarding the probable amount of the seasonal remissions that will have to be granted in this fasli on account of the unfavourable season. It is roughly estimated that remissions to the extent of Rs. 52·71 lakhs and suspensions of revenue to the extent of Rs. 8·74 lakhs will have to be granted in the current fasli. Districtwar details are given in the [a] annexure."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to invite the attention of the Hon. the Minister to the fact that the time allotted for this Demand is coming to a close in one minute."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I think my address also has come to a close."

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is why I did not want to interrupt."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib stated that the charka as also the weaving industry were not attended to. I may mention to the hon. Member and other hon. Members that charka has been attended to as far as possible in spite of the prejudice and obstruction in certain quarters. As regards the weaving industry we are attempting to do as much as possible by reviving it. I request the hon. Members, Sir, with your permission, to withdraw their cut motions and pass this Demand."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" In view of the detailed replies given by the Revenue Minister, I do not press my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XI on page 99 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 862 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 10 supra.]

Statement showing the number of motor vehicles which used the public roads in the Province during the quarter ending the 31st March 1938.

Class of vehicles.	Number of vehicles.
1 Motor cycles	1,371
2 Motor lorries used in the course of trade and industry	1,499
3 Motor vehicles plying for hire and used for the transport of passengers (buses and taxis) ..	4,105
4 Other motor vehicles	14,815

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 865 asked by Sri V. Venkatasubbayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 12 supra.]

Letter from Lieut-Col. C. M. GANAPATHY, M.C., I.M.S., Director of Public Health, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Department, dated 3rd January 1939, R. No. 41350 Mal./38.

[Malaria—Kodur and neighbouring villages (Nellore district)—Measures.]

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the report from the District Health Officer, Nellore, regarding the prevalence of malaria in Kodur and neighbouring villages for some years past. From the report it will be seen that during 1937–38 malaria broke out in a severe epidemic form in July 1937, and has continued since with very little remission. From the history given by the District Health Officer, it is seen that during 1933–34 also there had been a severe epidemic of malaria in that region.

The number of deaths due to fevers is noted in the tabular statements enclosed with the report. The number of attacks and deaths due to malaria have not been recorded. A register ought to have been maintained for fevers according to proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, Madras, No. Mis. 1138, dated 13th April 1931. If such a register had been maintained by the village headmen the information regarding

the number of attacks and deaths due to malaria would easily be available now. The District Health Officer is being asked to enquire why such registers have not been maintained and bring the matter to the notice of the Collector.

Kodur and Kothakodur were visited by Major Mulligan, Dr. Paul, F. Russell and the Malaria Officer and some investigations were also conducted by the Rockfeller Foundation. As a result of the investigations some recommendations have been made which are being put into effect by the district board as far as funds permit. The action taken in this direction has been described by the District Health Officer in his report. I consider that paris green spraying and introduction of larvicidal fish will only touch the fringe of the problem. A much more detailed survey of the area is necessary with a view to formulate proposals for permanent control of malaria in that area. The malaria in Kodur and surrounding villages seems to be irrigational malaria, i.e., malaria associated with defective irrigation. We are trying some experimental measures in Pattukkotai in connexion with irrigation-malaria of that place. After some time. we will be in a position to see what sort of solution will be possible for the area near Kodur; till that I would certainly advise the recurrent measures of—

(1) Larvicidal treatment.

(2) Introduction of fish.

(3) Intensive quininization.

The District Health Officer is already taking steps in this direction and if more funds are required, he will certainly approach the district board for the same.

ENCLOSURE.

Letter from the District Health Officer, Nellore, dated 12th December 1938, Ref. No. 579 Gl./37.

[Malaria—Kodur and neighbouring villages—Measures.]

I submit the following information called for by the Government [in their memorandum No. 48465-1-E-1, P.H., dated 22nd November 1938.]

1. Kodur village, comprising revenue divisions, Bit I and Bit II, Venkanapalem and Idur Bit I and Bit II comprising a number of villages and small hamlets form a group of villages just adjoining the Buckingham Canal, and are sea coast villages between one and one and a half miles from the sea. These villages of Nellore taluk, along with sea coastal villages in Gudur and Sulurpet taluks have been registering malarial attacks for a number of years in the past.

In this Kodur group of villages, quinine from district board supply was being distributed from 1932 onwards to combat the existing malaria. The enclosed record [sub-enclosure (i)] of births and total and fever deaths in the villages from 1930 onwards, shows that though malaria was present, it was not in an epidemic form till 1933. During 1933 and 1934, it broke out in a severe epidemic form—total deaths in the villages being far in excess of births during these years. The 1933–34 epidemic subsided and few attacks of malaria only were registered during 1935 and 1936. During 1937–38, malaria broke out again in severe epidemic form in July 1937, and has continued since with very little remission.

2. The vital statistics registered during 1937–38 and during 1938–39 in these villages are submitted in the enclosed statement [sub-enclosure (ii)]

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The percentage of fevers to total deaths and the predominance of total deaths over births noted in the statement show the severity of the epidemic in four of these revenue group of villages—Idur Bit II only showing the prevalence of a mild epidemic. During the year 1937–38, between 80–90 per cent of the population of these villages was affected with malaria but no exact record of incidence of morbidity is available, as fever cases were not notified. Owing to reinfection, despite intensive quininization, cases of severe anæmia, splenomegalogy were common as sequelæ. In addition, dysentery (bacillary), affected those devitalized by the malarial attacks in specially severe form from August to December.

3. *Measures adopted—Curative.*—During 1937–38, immediately on the outbreak of malaria in epidemic form in July, free distribution of quinine was intensified. A Sub-Assistant Surgeon was posted for affording treatment of attack and complications of dysentery and severe anæmia. He worked from 27th September 1937 to 26th March 1938 having his headquarters in the village. In addition to quinine, plasmochine, atebrin and drugs to treat the complications were supplied to the Medical Officer posted.

Prevention.—A preliminary survey of Kodur and Kothakodur areas (Kodur Bit II) only was kindly undertaken and commenced by the Rockfeller Foundation Unit, Malaria Investigations, from August 1937. It had since been completed and a preliminary report on the survey with its recommendation regarding anti-malarial measures to be adopted was communicated to me in September 1937. Chief among the recommendations are the following items:—

(1) Treatment of all breeding places with paris green—breeding places being nearly all water collections—irrigation tank, paddy fields, irrigation channels, drainage channels, seepages and fresh water wells in the villages.

(2) Stocking of larvicidal fish in fresh-water wells breeding the vector species of mosquito.

(3) Intensive quininization of the population.

The officer in charge of the investigations promised to depute an engineer to advise further on the measures to be adopted for dealing with the breeding in Kodur drainage channel and seepages.

The district board allotted a sum of Rs. 2,000 only for expenditure in connexion with the anti-malarial operations for one year and subject to this limitation, execution of anti-malarial measures recommended above was commenced from 1st November 1938 in Kodur and Kothakodur, two villages included in Kodur Bit II revenue division only.

The measures now being carried out are the following:—

(1) Treatment with paris green of the paddy fields, irrigation channels which are extensive and are actively breeding the vector species.

(2) Clearing weeds, removing rank vegetation, canalizing stagnant channels.

(3) Filling up small disused pits found breeding the vector.

(4) For stocking the fresh-water wells with larvicidal fish—gambusia—action is being taken to depute the Malaria Sanitary Inspector to Rockfeller Unit Foundation office at Madras, to bring the supply of fish kindly promised by Dr. Russell, Officer in charge. A nursery for the stocking of the fish is prepared and kept ready and on receipt of the stock of fish within a week, action will be taken to stock all the wells breeding with the fish.

(5) Free distribution of quinine is being carried on intensively through the Medical Officer who is an L.I.M. in charge of the Rural Dispensary, opened by Kodur Panchayat Board, in Kodur from 1st June 1938.

The following staff is employed for the execution of the above measures:—

(1) One Sanitary Inspector and a peon.

Note.—He is the Sanitary Inspector in charge of anti-malaria work in the District Board area and the cost of the Malaria Sanitary Inspector for malaria duty is sanctioned permanently.

(2) Five coolies.

Kodur is fixed as the headquarters of the Sanitary Inspector.

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General.—I have to submit that regarding anti-malarial measures in the Kodur area only a beginning has been made in Kodur and **Kothakodur** villages of Bit II. Drainage channels—the big Kodur channel, and the large seepages, and the big Kodur tank, have yet to be dealt with effectively, and the engineering service promised is awaited regarding the Kodur drainage channel and the seepages. Other than an intensification of quinine distribution, in other hamlets of Kodur Bit II and in Kodur Bit I, in Venkanapalem, Idur Bit I and Bit II, mentioned above as the infected villages, no other measures—treatment with paris green, etc.—as anti-mosquito measures could be undertaken for want of funds. In villages under Kodur Bits I and II above, over 2,300 acres of paddy fields require larvicidal measures, in addition to irrigation tanks, channels and ponds.

Sub-enclosures.

(i)

Statement showing the births, deaths and deaths under fever in the malaria infected villages, Nellore taluk.

		Kotha-kodur.	Kodur II.	Kodur I.	Kodur Khandrika.	Venkana-palem.	Mandapam.	Idur Bit I.
Population ..			3,222	1,461	104	931	1,434	1,891
1930	Births ..	34	83	69	8	24	65	75
	Deaths ..	25	48	39	2	16	33	43
	Fevers ..	9	11	12	..	8	27	21
1931	Births ..	51	82	45	5	38	37	60
	Deaths ..	25	64	30	1	22	26	47
	Fevers ..	..	13	2	..	14	8	10
1932	Births ..	..	90	40	3	25	50	54
	Deaths ..	..	86	29	1	21	50	43
	Fevers ..	..	37	8	..	5	46	10
1933	Births ..	23	45	41	2	21	27	74
	Deaths ..	44	53	98	..	50	34	40
	Fevers ..	9	12	36	..	15	27	10
1934	Births ..	13	71	6	3	..	28	55
	Deaths ..	22	65	51	1	..	24	35
	Fevers ..	6	9	32	1	..	22	..
1935	Births ..	27	77	44	2	..	49	80
	Deaths ..	19	35	28	4	..	31	57
	Fevers ..	2	3	1	..	..	20	5
1936	Births ..	34	78	56	8	42	37	55
	Deaths ..	13	35	13	5	18	20	41
	Fevers ..	4	14	1	4	8	12	14
1937	Births ..	22	72	26	6	19	49	52
	Deaths ..	40	78	37	1	25	38	44
	Fevers ..	28	52	7	..	16	4	2

(ii)

Statement showing the particulars called for in Reference No. 579-37, dated 4th December 1938, of the District Health Officer, Nellore.

	Kodur Bit I.	Kodur Bit II.	Kodur Khandrika.	Venkana-palem.	Idur Bit II Mandapam.
Population	1,461	3,222	104	931	1,434
1937–38.					
Births	31	97	5	19	53
Deaths	48	162	1	38	48
Fever deaths	17	118	..	20	9
Percentage of deaths under fevers to total deaths ..	35·42	72·8	..	52·68	18·75
***April to November* 1938.**					
Births	12	31	2	16	26
Deaths	27	80	2	26	30
Deaths due to fevers	18	63	2	22	10
Percentage of deaths under fevers to total deaths ..	66·67	78·75	100	84·62	8·33

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Appendix III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 868 asked by Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 13 supra.]

List of fruit-bearing and remunerative trees planted in reserved forests and the places where they are planted.

Fruit-bearing trees—

Tamarind in various localities throughout the forests.

Gallnut in various localities throughout the forests especially in Kollegal and Coimbatore North divisions.

Cashewnuts in South Kanara and in some of the drier districts.

Remunerative trees —

Timber—

Teak ..	.. Throughout the forests wherever suitable, especially in South Malabar, Wynad, Godavari, Coimbatore, Tinnevelly, *Madura, South Kanara.*
Mahogany	.. Throughout the forests wherever suitable, especially in South Malabar, Wynad, South Kanara.
Rosewood	.. Throughout the forests wherever suitable, especially in South Malabar, Wynad, Coimbatore.
Hopea ..	.. Mainly in South Kanara.

And other valuable trees as, for example, the Terminalias, Ptorocarpus, etc.

Fuel species—

Cassia siamea
Albizzia lebbek
Azadirachta indica *
Dolichandrone crispa
Acacia sundra
Albizzia odoratissima
Pterocarpus santalinus
Pterocarpus marsupium
Albizzia amara
Dalbergia latifolia
Hardwickia binata
Wrightia tinctoria
Zizyphus jujuba
Pithecolobium dulce
Cassia fistula
Acacia arabica
Pongamia glabra
Acacia planifoons
Prosopis juliflora
Cassia auriculata

} In the fuel districts of the Presidency.

* Its fruit is also used for making oil.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 871 asked by Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 16 supra.]

Note from Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao of the Servants of India Society on the need for geological survey of the Ceded districts.

One of the terms of reference to the Famine Code Revision Committee is to investigate and suggest measures designed to prevent and mitigate famines and to protect the population of those areas which are at present liable to frequent failures of monsoons. The question of providing wells for the purpose of irrigation and water-supply comes within the purview of the investigation. But in the absence of sufficient data based on the geological survey of the region, even the Committee will find it difficult to make any definite recommendation. It is understood the Department of Industries undertook boring operations some time ago in the Bellary firka and a report on the same has been issued. But the water that may be found underlying the black-cotton soil is considered usually brackish, non-potable and probably deleterious to crops. It is not clear if the experimental borings made by the Department of Industries were sufficiently deep and whether any attempt was made to find if potable water could be found at a certain depth. Perhaps such experimental borings may involve unnecessary expenditure without adequate results and as a preliminary to boring wells a geological survey of the tract will be welcomed even by the Department of Industries. So the Government may be pleased to order for such a geological survey immediately to obtain the necessary data which alone will enable either the Committee or the Government to decide on the future policy regarding wells. Without waiting for the report of the Committee, the Government can take immediate action in regard to this survey. It is stated that the Government of Bombay have requested the Government of India to lend the services of an expert geologist for such a survey in Gujerat to find out if there are subterranean streams running and at what places. Similar action in regard to the Ceded districts and that too immediately will be useful. This question may be seriously considered by the Government.

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Appendix V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 263 asked by Sri P. Buchappa Nayudu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 25 supra.]

Investment and return on Electrical Development of each Government Power System in the Presidency.

Name of system.	Year.	Capital outlay to end of the year.	Percentage of net profit on capital invested.	Remarks.
Tamil.		RS.		
1 Pykara Hydro-Electric system.	1937–38 ..	2,13,28,805	* 3·60	* Represents net profit after deducting interest charges.
2 Mettur Hydro-Electric system.	1937–38 ..	1,32,33,706	Nil.	Commenced operation from 1st November 1937. But operation and maintenance expenses were covered and a part of the interest payments.
3 Dindigul Electric Supply Scheme (Thermal).	1937–38 ..	1,33,310	* 6·72	* Since closed down and connected to Pykara supply.
4 Virudhunagar Electric Supply Scheme (Thermal).	1937–38 ..	1,47,871	* 6·98	Do.
5 Theni Electric Supply Scheme (Thermal).	1937–38 ..	1,66,798	Nil.	Will be closed down very shortly and connected to Pykara supply. Operation and maintenance expenses were covered and a part of interest payments.
Telugu.				
6 Vizagapatam Electric Supply Scheme (Thermal).	1937–38 ..	14,61,784	Nil.	The scheme will be commencing regular operation from 1st April 1939.
7 Bezwada Electric Supply Scheme (Thermal).	1937–38 ..	9,11,521	Nil.	Do.

Appendix VI.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 264 asked by Sri Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 26 supra.]

Number of Depressed Class Members on District Boards.

	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
Bellary	3	3	3
Chingleput	4	4	4
Madura	4	4	4
The Nilgiris	1	1	1
North Arcot	..	..	4
Vellore	2	2	..
Tiruvannamalai	2	2	..
Vizagapatam	..	..	4
Vizagapatam	2	2	..
Bobbili	2	2	..
South Kanara	2	2	2
Trichinopoly	4	..	4
Trichinopoly, South	..	4	..
Trichinopoly, North	..	4	..
South Arcot	5	..	5
Cuddalore	..	6	..
Villupuram	..	6	..
Anantapur	4	4	4
West Godavari	4	..	4
Ellore	..	4	..
Narasapur	..	6	..
Cuddapah	2	2	3
Kurnool	3	3	3
Guntur	..	..	3
Guntur	2	2	..
Ongole	1	1	..
Chittoor	4	4	5
Tinnevelly	4	..	4
South Tinnevelly	..	5	..
North Tinnevelly	..	3	..
Coimbatore	4	..	4
Coimbatore	..	4	..
Erode	..	5	..
Salem	4	..	4
Salem	..	4	..
Dharmapuri	..	5	..
Ramnad	4	..	4
North Ramnad	..	4	..
South Ramnad	..	5	..
Kistna	4	..	4
Kistna	..	3	..
Bezwada	..	5	..
East Tanjore	4	4	..
West Tanjore	4	4	..
Tanjore	..	..	8
Nellore	3	..	3
North Nellore	..	5	..
South Nellore	..	4	..
East Godavari	5	..	5
Rajahmundry	..	6	—
Cocanada	..	6	..
Malabar	2	2	2

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Number of Depresesd Class Members on Municipal Councils.

	1936–37.	1937–38.	1938–39.
Anantapur.			
Anantapur	1	1	1
Hindupur	1	1	1
Tadpatri	1	Superseded.	1
North Arcot.			
Gudiyattam	1	1	1
Tiruppattur	1	1	1
Tiruvannamalai	1	1	1
Vaniyambadi	1	1	1
Vellore	2	2	2
Walajapet	1	Superseded.	1
South Arcot.			
Chidambaram	1	1	1
Cuddalore	2	2	2
Villupuram	1	1	1
Bellary.			
Adoni	2	2	2
Bellary	1	1	1
Hospet	1	1	1
Chingleput.			
Chingleput	1	1	1
Conjeeveram	1	1	1
Saidapet	1	1	1
Chittoor.			
Chittoor	1	Superseded	1
Tirupati	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*
Coimbatore.			
Coimbatore	2	2	2
Dharapuram	1	1	1
Erode	1	1	1
Pollachi	1	1	1
Tiruppur	1	1	1
Udamalpet	1	1	1
Cuddapah.			
Cuddapah	1	1	1
Proddatur	1	1	1
East Godavari.			
Cocanada	2	2	2
Peddapuram	1	1	1
Rajahmundry	2	2	2
West Godavari.			
Ellore	2	2	2
Palacole	1	1	1
Guntur.			
Chirala		Superseded.	
Guntur	1	Superseded	1
Narasaraopet	1	1	1
Ongole	1	1	1
Tenali	1	1	1

Number of Depressed Class Members on Municipal Councils—cont.

	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
South Kanara.			
Mangalore	1	1	1
Udipi	1	1	1
Bezwada	2	2	2
Gudivada	..	..	1
Masulipatam	2	2	2
Kurnool.			
Kurnool	1	1	1
Nandyal	1	1	1
Madura.			
Bodinayakanur	1	1	1
Dindigul	1	1	1
Kodaikanal	1	1	1
Madura	1	1	1
Palni	1	1	1
Periyakulam	1	1	1
Malabar.			
Calicut	1	1	1
Cannanore	1	1	1
Cochin	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*
Palghat	1	1	1
Tellicherry	1	1	1
Nellore.			
Nellore	1	1	1
The Nilgiris.			
Coonoor	1	1	1
Ootacamund	1	1	1
Ramnad.			
Karaikudi	1	1	1
Sivakasi	1	1	1
Srivilliputtur	1	1	1
Virudhunagar	1	1	1
Devakottai	..	..	1
Salem.			
Salem	2	2	2
Tanjore.			
Kumbakonam	1	1	1
Mannargudi	1	1	1
Mayavaram	1	1	1
Negapatam	1	1	1
Tanjore	1	1	1
Tiruvarur	1	1	1
Tinnevelly.			
Palamcottah	1	1	1
Tinnevelly	1	1	1
Tuticorin	1	1	1
Trichinopoly.			
Srirangam	1	1	1
Karur	1	1	1
Trichinopoly	1	1	1

Number of Depressed Class Members on Municipal Councils—cont.

	1936–37.	1937–38.	1938–39.
Vizagapatam.			
Anakapalle	1	1	1
Bimlipatam	1	1	1
Vizagapatam	1	1	1
Vizianagram	1	1	1
Chicacole	1	1	1

Number of Depressed Class Members on Panchayat Boards.

Name of district.	1936–37.	1937–38.	1938–39
Anantapur	75	92	97
Bellary	102	130	153
Chittoor	95	114	124
Cuddapah	119	133	133
East Godavari	275	335	344
West Godavari	269	301	322
Guntur	195	209	213
Kistna	69	87	98
Kurnool	160	194	196
Nellore	105	184	200
Vizagapatam	170	208	244
North Arcot	229	248	258
South Arcot	221	235	242
Chingleput	198	253	258
Coimbatore	70	108	139
South Kanara	71	78	89
Madura	134	171	191
Malabar	23	32	47
Nilgiris	19	19	19
Ramnad	39	44	54
Salem	71	75	83
Tanjore	140	199	230
Tinnevelly	87	109	114
Trichinopoly	160	195	209

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 266 asked by Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 27 supra.]

Statement.

Class of work. (1)	Pendency on 28th September 1938, the date when the Additional Sessions Court began to function. (2)	Pendency on 23rd December 1938, when the Additional Court was abolished. (3)
I. Civil Work—		
Original suits	12	11
Regular appeals	152	164 *
Civil Miscellaneous appeals ..	69	82
Original petitions	59	80
II. Criminal Work—		
Sessions cases	32	15
Criminal appeals	25	11
Criminal revision petitions ..	6	2

* Of these, 31 appeals were transferred to the Sub-Court, Tirunelveli, for disposal on the 12th January 1939.

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Appendix VIII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 270 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 29 supra.]

Statement showing the number of Police Officers punished for corruption during the years 1937 and 1938.

Nature of punishments.	In 1937—Police constables.	In 1938. Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Head constables.	Police constables.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Dismissal	17	..	1	1	18
Removal	..	1	..	..	..
Services dispensed with.	..	..	..	1	1
Suspension	..	..	..	..	1
Reduction	5	..	..	2	4
Censure	..	..	1	..	..
Removal from the promotion list ..	..	..	..	..	1
Black marks	..	..	..	1	4
Total ..	22	1	2	5	29

Appendix IX.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 279 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 32 supra.]

Statement showing the extent fit for cultivation purposes in Panchayat Forests in each district.

District.	ACS.
Vizagapatam	100·50
East Godavari	290·00
West Godavari	..
Kistna	2,480·00
Guntur	4,110·87
Nellore	4,908·00
Cuddapah	544·00
Anantapur	15,570·00
Bellary	6,658·35
Kurnool	4,023·15
Chingleput	1,213·00
Chittoor	923·00
North Arcot	115·00
South Arcot	2,730·00
Trichinopoly	3,966·00
Madura	21·65
Ramnad	..
Tinnevelly	3·00
Coimbatore	229·00
Salem	2,653·00
South Kanara	310·00
Total	50,848·52

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APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 283 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 15th March 1939, page 34 supra.]

Statement of expenditure and revenue of the pearl and chank fisheries for the years 1916–17 *to* 1937–38.

Year.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Difference. Profit. — Loss.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
1916–17	34,609	89,202	54,593
1917–18	41,052	98,174	57,122
1918–19	57,092	1,39,703	82,611
1919–20	48,117	94,146	46,029
1920–21	43,393	79,929	36,536
1921–22	42,929	51,195	8,266
1922–23	70,998	1,09,015	38,017
1923–24	63,951	99,319	35,368
1924–25	50,180	54,024	3,844
1925–26	1,23,649	2,92,028	1,68,379
1926–27	1,28,145	3,35,779	2,07,634
1927–28	1,15,389	4,90,149	3,74,760
1928–29	91,212	1,91,408	1,00,196
1929–30	1,02,339	2,72,164	1,69,825
1930–31	82,833	1,00,694	17,861
1931–32	79,446	79,304	— 142
1932–33	56,448	60,139	3,691
1933–34	62,202	74,241	12,039
1934–35	56,243	45,801	— 10,442
1935–36	52,974	98,753	45,779
1936–37	61,919	45,313	— 16,606
1937–38	64,985	83,162	18,177

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APPENDIX XI

[Vide item II, page 85 supra].

Probable land revenue remissions (seasonal), fasli 1348 (round to hundred).

District.	Suspension Amount.	Remission Amount.	Remarks.
	RS.	RS.	
Vizagapatam	..	73,500	
East Godavari	..	90,000	
West Godavari	..	2,65,000	
Kistna	..	9,21,000	Includes dry remission Rs. 40,000.
Guntur	..	26,100	
Nellore	..	2,93,000	
Cuddapah	..	75,000	
Anantapur	35,500	42,500	Dry remission.
Bellary	1,57,400	4,27,600	
Kurnool	..	..	
Chingleput	..	7,50,000	
Chittoor	..	2,12,400	Includes dry remission Rs. 46,400.
North Arcot	..	4,20,000	
South Arcot	..	4,35,000	
Tanjore	..	89,000	
Trichinopoly	2,58,000	1,08,000	Dry suspensions.
Madura	..	2,13,000	
Ramnad	2,07,600	1,56,000	Dry suspensions.
Tinnevelly	..	1,89,000	
Coimbatore	..	3,55,000	Dry remission Rs 3,05,000.
Salem	2,15,600	1,09,000	Includes dry remission Rs. 20,000.
Malabar	..	21,000	
South Kanara	..	..	
The Nilgiris	..	..	
Total ..	8,74,100	52,71,100	

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 16th March 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Alleged removal of the thali *of a woman anti-Hindi prisoner in the Vellore Jail by the Jail authorities.*

* 875 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is an anti-Hindi woman prisoner belonging to the depressed classes, Mrs. Jayalakshmi by name, in the Vellore Jail now;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that she is treated as an ordinary prisoner there and not as a political prisoner;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that her *thali* was removed in the jail by the Jail authorities; and

(*d*) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, what action the Government propose to take against the officials responsible for this act?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The prisoner in question was placed in B class. There is no classification as political prisoner.

" (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*d*) The question does not arise."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" Sir, I would like to know whether there is any political significance in the anti-Hindi movement."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It is a matter of opinion, Sir." (Laughter.)

Reasons, if any, for the alleged withdrawal of the charge-sheet against certain Congressmen for riotous conduct at an anti-Hindi meeting at Ettayapuram.

* 876 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Sri Narasinga Rao and 29 other Congressmen were charged under sections 147, 332 and 337,

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Indian Penal Code, before the subdivisional Magistrate, Kovilpatti, in the Tinnevelly district, for having committed rioting at an anti-Hindi meeting held on the 19th November 1938, at Ettayapuram;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Police withdrew the above charge-sheet subsequently; and

(c) what the reasons are that led the Government to order the withdrawal of the above case?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (a), (b) & (c) The facts are as follows:—A disturbance occurred in connexion with an anti-Hindustani meeting at Ettayapuram in the Tinnevelly district on the night of the 13th November 1938 which the organizers insisted on holding in spite of the very strong and overwhelming local opinion against the objectives of the meeting. The large crowd which gathered was opposed to the anti-Hindustani movement and began to disturb the speakers. Later some persons from the neighbouring houses started throwing stones. The darkness helped them to carry on their hooliganism. As the disturbance increased the meeting was abandoned, and after some difficulty the Police dispersed the crowd and protected and escorted the speakers and organizers of the meeting. The Government having perused the reports on the occurrence were of the opinion that the meeting should not have been convened at all in that place as the people in the area were overwhelmingly against the holding of the meeting in view of the provocative and scurrilous language commonly used by some of the speakers at such meetings. They decided that no purpose would be served under such circumstances by launching any prosecutions based on doubtful identification evidence. The District Magistrate was informed accordingly. No petition to withdraw any case was received from the accused or nyone else."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Do I understands from the Hon. the Premier, Sir, that the Government are of opinion that it will not be possible for anybody or any set of people to express their opinion at a place where there is overwhelming opposition to that opinion?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" If there is overwhelming opposition to the expression of any opinion and if the speeches are ordinarily expected to be provocative, it is desirable, Sir, to prevent such meetings."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If, according to the Hon. the Premier the speeches are not going to be provocative, is it his opinion again that no expression of opinion of any kind should be allowed when there is overwhelming opposition?"

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Put in that way, it is not my opinion, Sir."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that the holding of public meetings and addressing of public meetings are important ways of expressing and formulating public opinion, will the Government consider the desirability of giving all facilities to people who are against the introduction of Hindi to express their opinion in the manner best suited to them? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The Government's desire is—and they are quite prepared to help also—that a free expression of opinion should be facilitated; but it is necessary, Sir, also to remember that very scurrilous and highly provocative speeches are made which must end in hooliganism of this kind. If mere expression and proper expression of opinion is intended, the Government may as well immediately state and claim that they have given every facility for such expression of opinion."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Am I to understand from the Hon. the Premier that hooliganism is a feature of only this movement? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" No, Sir. It can start in connexion with anything whatsoever."

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" May I take it that the Police arrested these people without sufficient material or without sufficient reason? It appears that the Police arrested 29 people and took them to the Police station. Did the Police act without sufficient cause? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" As I have stated, Sir, it became necessary actually to escort the speakers and protect them and see that the thing concluded without further hooliganism. And some people were arrested at the time in order that more disturbance might be prevented. Then the question was what should be done with those people who had been arrested. The arrest had taken place on such evidence, as I have already indicated, as was available at night. Under those circumstances, this is what took place."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the opposite party filed any charges on their own behalf when they found that the Police withdrew their charges against the arrested people? They had a right to do so."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I am not in a position to answer that."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Were these 29 persons arrested only to prevent hooliganism on their part and to save the speakers from any molestation? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" They were arrested by the Police as having participated in the disturbance. At the time, that arrest stopped further hooliganism."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Police could not prevent hooliganism when only such a small number as 29 was responsible for hooliganism?"

THE HON. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The hon. Member has not understood the situation. There was an enormous crowd; the Police were very few and 29 persons were arrested."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If 29 persons were arrested, may I not understand, Sir, that these 29 were picked from a large crowd for very definite reasons?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" They might have been picked for reasons which the Police knew at the time. What to do with them afterwards is, however, a different question."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" May I ask, Sir, whether there was any proof that these 29 people belonged to the pro-Hindi party?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It is difficult to divide people that way. These 29 people were picked out as being responsible, probably, for the disturbance at the time. There is no question of pro-Hindi or anti-Hindi in that matter. The only question afterwards is whether they were responsible for throwing stones and causing distrurbance and it depended entirely on identification at the time. It is not a question of pro-Hindi or anti-Hindi."

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" May I know from the Hon. the Premier, whether the Government acted of their own accord or on any application from the people affected?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I have already stated that no petition to withdraw any case was received from the accused or any one else."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of such disturbances brought to our notice, may I request the Hon. the Premier to pass orders asking the Police to make proper bandobust at anti-Hindi meetings so that no disturbance takes place?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Wherever due notice is given bandobust is being made; this was a rare occurrence; for some reason or other there was no proper bandobust; a particular place was selected where the maximum amount of disturbance was caused."

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SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" May I request the Hon. the Premier to take the House into his confidence and place on the table the First Information Report in this matter? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The hon. Member has served the Government in a magisterial capacity. He knows that First Information Reports are not even given to the accused persons till the case is taken up."

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" I made that suggestion on account of the procedure that has been adopted by the Government in acting of their own accord *suo moto*, without any interference from any outside party? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I have already stated, Sir, the circumstances of the case. Numerous meetings have been held in the Province. (Mr. Hameed Khan: 'Hear, hear.') Numerous provocative speeches have been made and an enormous and admirable amount of patience has been shown by the people. This was a particular case where the worst spot was selected and by far the most provocative arrangements were carried out. Hence this trouble took place at a time in the night when the Police were not ready for the huge disturbance that took place. I do not think that any purpose will be served by carrying on this controversy further with respect to that particular incident."

Compulsory retirement of Government servants.

* 877 *Q.*—MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the Madras Government intend to make any alterations in the existing rules in respect of the compulsory retirement of Government servants?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The Government have recently amended the rules so as to require ministerial servants who previous to the amendment could be retained in service up to 60 years of age, to retire on attaining the age of 55 years as in the case of non-ministerial servants The Government do not propose to make any other alteration in the rules.

Alleged falsification of the cultivation accounts in Dharmapuri and Harur taluks.

* 878 *Q.*—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the karnams and other village officials of Dharmapuri and Harur taluks were prevailed upon to

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give an increased value of the crop produce in the cultivation accounts submitted by them after the visit of the Revenue Board Member, Mr. Stewart;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cultivation accounts of the karnams of Dharmapuri and Harur taluks were presented in the taluk offices before the visit of the Revenue Board Member, Mr. Stewart; and

(c) whether it is a fact that such village officials were required to furnish another cultivation account with increased valuation of the crops after Mr. Stewart's visit?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) In the case of Harur taluk, these accounts were presented before the visit of the Member of the Board of Revenue. In the case of Dharmapuri taluk these accounts were presented after the Member's visit.

" (c) After a conference of Tahsildars in January 1939, a revised form of cultivation account prepared in accordance with Board's Standing Order No. 14 was prescribed and returns were obtained in the revised form. In some cases the previous figures were revised with reference to the inspection and enquiry of the supervising officers."

Measures to alleviate the sufferings of the peasants in the southern districts of the Province.

* 879 Q.—SRI R. S. MANIKKAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the reports of drought in the southern districts of the Province what steps the Government propose to take to alleviate the sufferings of the peasants?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" Five relief works under the provisions of the Famine Code are in operation in the Coimbatore district. In other districts the Revenue Department and local bodies have, where necessary, started minor irrigation and other works in their programme. The postponement of kist has been sanctioned in certain parts of Coimbatore, Tirunelveli and Trichinopoly districts, where such postponement was considered necessary by the local officers and the Board of Revenue. Arrangements have been made where necessary for supply of fodder, and concessional rates of railway freight have been sanctioned for transport of fodder to the affected parts of Coimbatore.

The local officers and the Board of Revenue are closely watching the situation and the Government will take such further steps as they consider necessary to meet the requirements of the affected areas from time to time."

Emoluments of the village munsifs of Bhadrachalam taluk, East Godavari.

* 880 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the village munsifs of Bhadrachalam taluk, East Godavari, have salaries ranging from 4 annas to Rs. 18 per annum with rent-free land;

(*b*) the average extent and annual rental value of those lands;

(*c*) whether these officers have to do all the duties that are ordinarily carried out by such officers in the plains;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that these officers are not allowed to carry on any trade or business; and

(*e*) whether the Government will look into this and do justice to these officers?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have called for a report."

Emoluments of the karnams in Bhadrachalam taluk, East Godavari.

* 881 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that karnams in Bhadrachalam taluk, East Godavari, are paid Rs. 100 to Rs. 400 per annum, besides a commission of one anna for each rupee collected;

(*b*) what the reasons are for such arrangement; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to revise it?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have called for a report."

Zamindaris in the Bhadrachalam taluk.

* 882 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that kists payabale by ryots have been greatly increased by zamindars in Bhadrachalam taluk;

(b) whether it is a fact that both the zamindars and the ryots have fallen in heavy arrears; and

(c) whether it is a fact that more than twenty out of about thirty estates have been directed by the Government to be sold?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—(a) to (c) The Government have called for a report."

Principle involved in the inclusion of the posts of upper division clerks in the Chief Engineer's office under the selection category.

* 883 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state, with reference to Question No. 531 and the answer given thereto at the meeting held on the 12th December 1938, in view of the Government's order that promotion to upper division clerks' posts in Chief Engineers' offices does not involve assumption of duties and responsibilities of greater importance than those attaching to the lower posts—

(1) why the upper division clerk's post is declared to come under the selection category;

(2) what the necessity is for two different scales of pay for the two classes of clerks; and

(3) what the object is in prescribing probation for the upper division post?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The upper division clerks' posts in the Chief Engineer's offices have been declared to be a selection category as the Government consider that promotion to that category should be made on grounds of merit and ability, seniority being considered only where merit and ability are approximately equal.

"The retention of the two scales would provide an incentive to the smarter men. A single scale would have a deadening effect and put a premium on inertia.

"A person who is found suitable for the lower division clerk's post need not necessarily be found suitable for the upper division clerk's post. A period of probation has therefore been fixed to test the suitability of the person for the upper division post."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister realizes that ordinarily it is possible for the heads of departments to select even ordinary men for selection category and there are persons who are kept down under the shadow of selection category, simply because the heads of departments are not in favour of such people?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The Government are not prepared to accept the allegation that heads of departments keep down certain persons and show partiality to other persons."

Revival of the old minor ports and improvements and repairs to the existing ones in the Tanjore district.

* 884 *Q*.—SRI A. PL. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many minor ports there are in the Tanjore district formerly open for trade;

(*b*) what the actual exports and imports were for the six years in each of those ports since 1928;

(*c*) what the cause for the closure of these minor ports was;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that by such closure, the railway freight has been increased for important products such as paddy and rice;

(*e*) whether the Hon. the Minister is aware of the fact that from the Tanjore district, large quantities of paddy and rice are exported to Jaffna, Colombo, Tuticorin and other places;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that on account of such closure, the Tanjore district has lost the best market for its paddy;

(*g*) whether there is any proposal to re-open these ports;

(*h*) what steps have been taken in this direction, recently;

(*i*) whether it is a fact that all the minor ports require improvements; if so, whether any representations have been received by the Government on this matter from the public as well as from the Presidency Port Officer, Madras; if the answer is in the negative, whether the Hon. Minister will call for a full report from the Presidency Port Officer, and investigate into the question of improvements immediately;

(*j*) what provision has been made for effecting improvements to these minor ports;

(*k*) whether it is a fact that certain estimates have been forwarded by the Port Officer for effecting certain necessary improvements regarding Tirumulavasal and Adirampatnam ports; if so, whether the Government will expedite the sanction of the estimates;

(*l*) whether it is a fact that, owing to the objection raised by the railway company, certain ports in the Tanjore district were closed; and

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(*m*) whether it is a fact that the trade for Tanjore paddy and rice has been greatly affected by the discontinuance of coastal trade in Adirampatnam and Point Calimere?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*) Formerly, there were fifteen ports in the district; ten of them are now open for trade.

" (*b*) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

" (*c*) The ports of Nagore and Kottaipatnam were closed and added to Negapatam and Ammapatnam respectively as there was very little trade at these ports. The port of Velanganni was closed for a similar reason. The ports of Gopalapatnam and Sundarapandyapatnam were closed as there was no trade at these ports.

"(*d*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*e*) Rice and paddy are exported from the Tanjore district to Ceylon.

" (*f*) By the closure of these five minor ports, the Tanjore district has not lost the best market for its paddy as rice is still exported to Ceylon by the more convenient, regular and cheaper route.

" (*g*) & (*h*) There is no proposal to re-open any of the ports which have been closed except that a recommendation has been made to the Government of India to throw open Point Calimere for foreign trade and travel.

" (*i*) Estimates for improvements to the ports are received and each case is dealt with on its merits.

" (*j*) When the improvements are sanctioned necessary provision will be made.

" (*k*) Proposals for cutting the bar at the port of Tirumulavasal every alternate year have been sanctioned. The only proposal for improvement to the port of Adirampatnam put forward was for the construction of a road and this has been deferred for future consideration.

" (*l*) No port in the Tanjore district was closed owing to the objection raised by the railway company.

" (*m*) The coastal trade at Adirampatnam and Point Calimere has not been discontinued."

SRI A. PL. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI:—" May I know the reasons for the closure of passenger traffic from Point Calimere and a few other places? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think an independent question may be put upon that subject."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 165 infra.

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Percentage of revenue realized from the Cauvery-Mettur Project during the last four years.

* 885 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what the percentage of revenue realized from the Cauvery-Mettur Project has been in each of the last four years?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" The percentage of net revenue on capital invested is

	PER CENT.
1934–35	0·72
1935–36	0·86
1936–37	0·82
1937–38	0·87."

Proposal to make the service of copyists in courts pensionable.

* 886 *Q.*—SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received by the Government on the question of improving the lot of court copyists in the matter of pay, and pension or provident fund;

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the question and what decision, if any, they have arrived at; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the advisability of making the service pensionable like other State services?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The Government have considered the question and have issued orders admitting copyists to the General Provident Fund.

" (*c*) The Government have decided the question in the negative."

Reasons, if any, for placing Sri M. N. Muthukumaraswami Pavalar, an anti-Hindi prisoner, in 'C' class.

* 887 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. M. N. Muthukumaraswami Pavalar, Editor, *Seerthirutham,* was convicted in connexion with the anti-Hindi agitation;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that he was placed in 'B' class by the convicting Magistrate;

(c) whether it is a fact that he has been subsequently placed in 'C' class; and

(d) if the answer to clause (c) is in the affirmative, under whose orders and for what reasons?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"(a) He was convicted for a speech that he made at a meeting which fell within section 153-A and section 505-C of the Indian Penal Code.

"(b) The convicting magistrate placed him provisionally in 'B' class.

"(c) & (d) Orders were passed by Government placing him in 'C' class in accordance with the rules on the subject of classification of prisoners, having regard to the reports received as to the status, etc., of the prisoner concerned and no protest has been received."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Question No. 888."

SRI R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR:—"I want to put a supplementary question on question No. 887 . . ."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. May I know whether a supplementary question to a previous question can be allowed after you have gone to the next question?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have not stopped him from putting a supplementary question though I have called the next question. He has been struggling to put a supplementary question."

SRI R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR:—"May I know whether the paper *Seerthirutham* is being published for the last one or two years?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I am not aware of it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether Mr. Muthukumaraswami Pavalar or this paper was responsible for the offence?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The man was responsible and not the paper." (Laughter.)

Number of candidates selected for appointment as District Munsifs in January 1936 *and April* 1937 *and the number appointed therefrom by the end of January* 1939.

* 888 Q.—MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) how many persons were selected for appointment as District Munsifs in the selections held in January 1936 and April 1937; and

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(b) how many of those selected were actually in service as District Munsifs by the end of January 1939?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) & (b) At the selection made in February 1936, August 1937 and February 1938, 26 persons were considered suitable for appointment as District Munsifs. Of these five were actually in service as District Munsifs at the end of January 1939."

Co-ordination of the work of the various district officers in rural areas.

* 889 Q.—SRI R. S. MANIKKAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state whether steps have been taken to co-ordinate the work of the various district officers in rural areas?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" It is open to the District Periodical Conference to discuss matters of general importance appertaining to the administration of the district which may be brought before it by the District Collector."

Action, if any, taken on the report of the Provincial Marketing Officer regarding the marketing conditions in Tanjore district.

* 890 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the report of the Provincial Marketing Officer regarding marketing conditions in the Tanjore district; and

(b) what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (a) The Provincial Marketing Officer referred to the subject in his report for the month of December 1938. Relevant extracts [a] are placed on the table.

" (b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—" May I know whether the resolutions referred to in the report have been given effect to since? "

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" I have already said that the matter is receiving the consideration of the Government."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 166–168 infra.

Maintenance of cattle at the Coimbatore Agricultural College.

* 891 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for heavier losses in 1931–32 to 1933–34 under maintenance of cattle at the Coimbatore Agricultural College; and

(*b*) the reasons for losses during the last ten years except in 1936–37?

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) It is difficult to sum up the reasons in a categorical statement. The main reasons for heavier losses during these years may, however, be stated as follows:—

(1) 1931–32.—There was a fall in output and turnover of the dairy during the year. There were also reductions under miscellaneous receipts.

(2) 1932–33.—There was marked reduction during the year in the sale of milk and butter produced at the dairy.

(3) 1933–34.—There was a fall in the output and in the sale of dairy produce. The loss is also to a certain extent due to the reduction in the selling price of milk from 2 annas per pound to 1 anna 6 pies per pound which was effected from 15th July 1932.

" (*b*) The losses referred to are due to the fact that though the College Dairy was treated as a commercial concern, the cost of staff employed for instructional purposes was debited to its account. It is only from 1936 that the expenditure on the pay of the staff employed for instructional purposes has been excluded from the financial results of the working of the dairy.

Renewal of trade agreements between Burma and Madras.

* 892 *Q.*—Sri A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have made or propose to make any representations to the Central Government regarding the renewal of trade agreements between Burma and Madras;

(*b*) whether the Government have any information regarding proposals for such renewal of agreements with Burma, and if so, what it is; and

(*c*) whether the Government are taking any steps to safeguard the prices of agricultural products in this Province?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (*a*) Yes, representations have been made.

"(b) According to newspaper reports the matter seems to be under the active consideration of the Government of India.

"(c) The Government are keeping a close watch over the matter and have taken such action as was open to them in appropriate cases."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know the nature of the representations made?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"The Government of Madras represented to the Government of India that necessary protection should be given for products of the Madras Presidency."

Conditions of service of the officers, clerks and teachers under the Labour Department.

* 893 Q.—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) when the Labour Department was established;

(b) whether the services of the officers, clerks and teachers connected with the Department are permanent or temporary; and

(c) whether the Government Educational Rules regarding the question of pay, leave and the number of working days apply to the Labour school teachers; if not, why not?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) In 1920.

"(b) The Commissioner of Labour, the Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Labour, and the staff working in the office of the Commissioner at Madras are permanent. The rest are temporary.

"(c) Though the conditions of service of teachers in the two departments are regulated by different sets of rules, viz., the Madras Educational Subordinate Service Rules and the Madras Labour Subordinate (Temporary) Service Rules, the scales of pay for teachers of the different grades are the same. As regards leave, the Fundamental Rules and the Madras Leave Rules apply to both. Similarly in regard to the number of working days the rules under the Madras Elementary Education Act apply to both."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"In view of the fact that this Department has been in existence for the last two decades, will the Government consider the necessity of making the teachers in this Department also permanent?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"In answering a question put in this House some time back, it was stated that the Government would consider the case."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" May I know when the Government are going to get rid of the Labour school teachers in this Presidency?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" When the Government think that the Labour schools serve no purpose."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that the Department is doing much less than what was anticipated at the time of its establishment?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" We always aspire to do many things but we may not succeed in every one of them."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" Are the Government proposing to abolish all the Labour schools?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" No school is going to be abolished."

Union or Association for the teachers of Labour schools.

* *894 Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the teachers of Labour schools have a Teachers' Union or Association of their own, in the respective districts, for considering problems affecting their particular situations?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" So far as the Government are aware there is an Association in the Nellore district which has been recognized by the Government."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" Sir, this question is intended to apply to all the districts. Will the Government be pleased to state whether, if Labour school teachers start Unions or Associations in other districts, such Unions or Associations will be recognized by the Government?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" As stated in the answer, there is only one Association so far as the Government know and that has been recognized by the Government."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" If other Associations are started, will the Government consider the desirability of giving them due recognition?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" When such Associations apply for recognition, each case will be considered."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND II—PROVINCIAL EXCISE.

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 29,31,100 *under Demand II—Provincial Excise.*'

16th March 1939] [Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

"In doing so, Sir, I would like to remind the House that the expenditure under 'superintendence' includes one-third of the combined pay of all the three Members of the Board of Revenue. The expenditure is *charged*. The amount debited to the Excise department on account of the pay of the Members of the Board of Revenue is Rs. 41,000. One-third of the leave salary and the sterling overseas pay of the Members of the Board of Revenue is debited to this head. The expenditure is *charged*. A provision of Rs. 15,200 has been included in the Budget Estimate for 1939-40 under leave salary and deputation pay and a provision of Rs. 800 under sterling overseas pay.

"Sir, I find that hon. Members have given notice of token cut motions to discuss the general policy of Prohibition and the result of the enforcement of Prohibition. They have also suggested the advisability of the Excise staff being made to work the scheme. Sir, except for Prohibition, there is no material change in the previous and existing Excise policy. The policy of the Government is to prohibit the trade in and consumption of alcohol and similar intoxicants except for medicinal, scientific, industrial and such like purposes. The Madras Prohibition Act, 1937, which extends to the whole of the Province of Madras provides for the extension of the Act in stages to any area in the Presidency as and when it is decided by the Government to do so. Prohibition was introduced in the Salem district with effect from 1st October 1937 and in the Cuddapah and Chittoor districts with effect from 1st October 1938. It has been decided to extend it to the North Arcot district with effect from 1st October 1939. It will be extended to the other districts in the Province in due course.

"Sir, some hon. Members have given notice of token cut motions asking for information with regard to the results of the enforcement of the policy of Prohibition. I would like to draw their attention to G.O. No. 2846, dated 3rd November 1938, and also to the Press Communiqué No. 11, dated 9th February 1939, with regard to the success of the enforcement of Prohibition."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg to move the cut motion which stands in my name namely:—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 29,31,100 *for Provincial Excise by Rs.* 100.'

"I want to discuss the policy of the Government. Sir, for one who is one with the Government in their policy of Prohibition, there ought to be nothing to say by way of criticism of the policy that they have been pursuing in the four districts where Prohibition has been introduced. But it is the duty of this House to know from the Government whether, having adopted the policy of Prohibition and consequently lost a very large amount of revenue, they have really succeeded in making the people give up drink and whether they have made those districts really dry.

It is true that the Government have been saying in their Orders and Communiqués that Prohibition has succeeded completely in the Salem district and that it is working successfully in the other districts where it has been introduced. Sir, the other thing that I want to know is whether their policy of working Prohibition through the machinery of the Police and not of the Excise department has been successful and whether the Excise department would not have succeeded in achieving the same result as the Police department from the point of view of the Government. I want also to know whether it has been found to be more economical to employ the agency of the Police to bring about the desired result instead of employing the agency of the Excise department. It is this department that is working in the districts where Prohibition has not been introduced, and they are the people who are in the know of things, who are well acquainted with the circumstances of the case and who are in intimate touch with the trade in liquor. And certainly in the opinion of many people, they are people better fitted to suppress this evil in those districts where Prohibition has been introduced. I want to know, Sir, whether the Government have succeeded in achieving their object through the machinery of the Police, whether the Police have resorted to excesses in bringing about those results and whether the numerous cases of illicit practices which are reported in the papers show that the number of people who have given up drink has considerably decreased. With regard to all these matters there are no doubt various versions. We are not certainly in the confidence of the Government; of course the Government issue from time to time their Communiqués and Orders. But there are other people who look at the thing from another point of view and they seem to think that while the Government have succeeded in losing their revenue, they have not succeeded to an equal extent in putting down this evil. We are placed between these two versions; and as people who are interested in the complete success of the Prohibition policy we are anxious to know whether, and, if so, to what extent the allegations of the people who claim to speak from personal knowledge and experience when they say that Prohibition has not succeeded to any great extent, have any basis or foundation. I say all this because such allegations have been made by people who have gone to Salem and seen the things for themselves. It might be that to a certain extent they are biassed but we cannot dispose of their allegations by merely saying that they are all biassed and that they have been making only imaginary allegations. We are anxious to know the whole thing, especially because in view of the fact that the Government are bringing forward many taxation measures one after another, it is very important for us to know from the Government whether they have merely succeeded in losing revenue without achieving the very laudable object of enforcing Prohibition successfully.

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"Then there is the question of economy which should have been effected in the Excise department, since Prohibition has been introduced in as many as four districts. I want to know whether a commensurate reduction has been made in the staff of this department, whether the number of higher officers at the top has been reduced, or whether the Government think that the number of higher officers at the top should remain the same although Prohibition has been introduced in as many as four districts. I know that the Government have reduced the staff in the lower ranks but I want to know whether the Government have not thought it fit to reduce the number of officers in the higher ranks. I want to ask whether it would not be economical to do so.

"Sir, I would like to ask the Government, if they really believe in Prohibition, what they have done to achieve their object in the other districts where Prohibition has not been introduced. Are not the Government going to increase the duty on intoxicating liquors so that in addition to the increase in revenue which it might bring, it will also reduce the consumption proportionately? I want to know whether the Government have considered this question quite apart from the introduction of *Prohibition in all the districts in due course.*

"There is nothing more for me to say, Sir. I want to find out from the Government first of all whether in return for losing the revenue under this head they have really succeeded in making Prohibition effective; and secondly, what exactly they are doing to see that this drink habit is reduced in those districts where Prohibition has not yet been introduced; or whether they are merely waiting for Prohibition to be introduced in those districts in due course."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, in 3-45 p.m. seconding the token cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, I want to confine myself only to two aspects of the question of Prohibition. Sir, we all know that the immediate necessity for levying fresh taxation has arisen on account of the policy of Prohibition that has been followed by this Government. In order to recoup the loss that Prohibition is bringing, the Government have been driven, I must say, to the necessity of levying fresh taxation. The other day, Sir, the Hon. the Premier in his speech introducing the Budget stated that on account of the introduction of Prohibition in the Province, the spending power of the masses has increased or will increase by about 15 crores annually. That, I think, Sir, would be the state of things when Prohibition has been introduced throughout the Province. He also stated in his speech that on account of the prosperity that Prohibition has brought, the condition of the people would be very much improved. The very fact that according to the

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Premier the spending power of the masses will increase by 15 crores shows that he is a great optimist in this matter. Sir, that will naturally better the lot of the agriculturists and will increase trade, and it will create a greater demand for consumption goods. Sir, if that is the view that is taken by the Hon. the Premier, I should like to suggest that this fresh taxation also should follow in the wake of Prohibition from district to district. If, according to the Hon. the Premier, the loss of revenue in the four districts on account of the introduction of Prohibition is estimated at two-thirds of a crore, the spending power of the masses in those districts would naturally increase by about 2 crores. But what about the people in the other areas where there is no Prohibition, where the people are still drinking, where they are still allowed to drink? Of course in these areas, there can be no increase in the spending power of the masses. Will they be able to bear the burden of fresh taxation until the boon and full benefits of Prohibition are conferred on them? Therefore, I would suggest that whatever legislation this Government may adopt for levying fresh taxation, it should be applied only along with Prohibition, to district after district. That, I think, will go a long way in mitigating the hardship that would be caused to the people in areas where Prohibition has not yet been introduced. We can naturally expect that the people living in Prohibition areas, i.e., in the four districts where Prohibition has been introduced, will be in a position to bear the burden of fresh taxation, and it is but right that those people should be taxed in the first instance. Sir, on account of the prosperity that Prohibition is likely to bring to the people in our Province, we should not anticipate things and levy fresh burdens on them. It is true that Prohibition is a good thing; and I whole-heartedly support Prohibition. But at the same time, when imposing fresh burdens, we must see that we do not impose heavier burdens on the people without first giving them the benefits of any healthy measure which we are introducing or have already introduced.

"Next, Sir, with regard to the success of the working of Prohibition, we have had so many reports published in the papers, and we have also heard from the Hon. the Minister for Excise that the results have been so far satisfactory. No doubt it is very gratifying to know that any appreciable success, offences notwithstanding, in the working of a healthy measure like this should be regarded as success indeed. But so far, we have introduced Prohibition only over a restricted area. We began with Salem; from Salem we went to Chittoor and Cuddapah; and from Cuddapah we are now going to North Arcot. So far, our efforts have been concentrated over a limited area and we do not know how we shall be able to work the Prohibition Act when it is extended over a greater area, or over the whole Province. When the area becomes greater, the whole thing might become unwieldy.

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Therefore, my suggestion is that instead of removing the already existing Excise staff, it would be better, when Prohibition is being extended over a greater area, to have that staff, so that the Police and the Excise staffs might both work together and bring about the desired success."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Langley."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"I am not going to speak on this grant, Sir."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of three cut motions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"They are all token cut motions; you can speak on the first token cut motion and dilate upon the other motions."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the first motion is identical with the one that has already been moved."

MR. SPEAKER:—"After all, all these are token cut motions; there are no substantial cut motions. The practice is to select one cut motion and all the members speak on that motion. Any specific grievance that you may have, may be mentioned in the course of the arguments."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes, Sir, I quite see; but what happened yesterday does not encourage me to follow that procedure. I made specific mention of certain grievances which ought to be redressed and I wanted to know the Government's view with respect to them; but what happened was that by the time the Hon. the Minister touched upon the points raised by me, the Speaker was pleased to apply the guillotine and so nothing could be done . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But whatever may be the number of cut motions, not more than four hours can be given to a Demand. The whole time yesterday was given to that Demand; and therefore, there can be no complaint."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am not complaining; my point is that the Minister was not able to answer the specific points raised by me on the question of the grievances of ryots in the districts concerned, and so I respectfully beg to differ from the viewpoint . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is the procedure that will be adopted in this House; that has been finally settled, and all the members who have given notice of cut motions will speak on one motion, because they all happen to be only token cut motions."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not dispute your ruling, Sir."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Member will go on with his speech."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir. I would not touch on the question of Prohibition policy. From the present position, I quite see and I think hon. Members will be in agreement with me, that the Prohibition policy of the Congress Government has come to stay; I do think, as long as the Congress Government is in office—at any rate as long as the Congress ideals and policies survive—Prohibition will go on. I think it is futile and wasteful to spend any more time on the discussion as to whether this policy is ill-advised or well-advised. As a Muslim, I welcome the Prohibition policy of the Government, and I think it is the duty of every Muslim to support the policy of total Prohibition here and now. That should be the attitude. No doubt, Sir, there is the other side to the picture, that the Government are facing a loss of their income and they find it very difficult to make up the loss by the adoption of this policy which some people consider is suicidal. But the Government will have to suffer the consequences of any policy which they initiate. So far as we are concerned, we ought to support the Government in those measures in which we agree, or which are in the best interests of the moral and the economic elevation of the community at large. So far as this Prohibition policy is concerned, as it is one conceived for the moral, social and economic uplift of the general population of this country, I do think that every one is bound to support this policy.

"But the policy is only piecemeal now; it is being adopted only in parts and portions of the Province. It should have been wholesale. Sir, very valuable arguments have been advanced from time to time on the floor of this House with reference to the adoption of this piecemeal policy. Those arguments are convincing, but some of them are not convincing to many; even Mahatma Gandhi suggests that it should be taken up all on a sudden and on a wholesale scale. I do not know, Sir, what the present Government are going to do in the future. At any rate they have shown in the Budget for the coming year that only one district will be taken up. I would have been happier if they had taken up at least five districts; at the rate of one or two districts every year, it will take ten or fifteen years to cover the whole Province. At one stage it was thought that the Government would not take up any other district in the coming year, and that gave me some little despair; but luckily they have come forward with one district. I think that Prohibition must be worked out within five years at the maximum. There was a time when the old, pre-Reform Government wanted to have total Prohibition in the course of ten, fifteen or twenty years. At one stage it was regarded that it could be achieved within ten years; but all that is old, old theory. If it is possible and if it is

feasible, Prohibition must be completed at least within five years, if not within a shorter period than five years.

" Sir, there are very large implications with regard to the policy of Prohibition. The first is that the money that is lost has to be made good, and on that account, several taxation measures have been introduced and are being introduced. One, two or three such measures have been already considered by this House. No doubt taxation measures will be unpopular, and those taxation measures are certainly causing serious unrest in the country. I do not think, Sir, this is just the time for me to discuss that aspect of the activity or the policy of the Government. Sir, so far as Prohibition is concerned, I think the policy 4
is all right and it should be pursued and expedited as early as possible. It must become an accomplished fact very soon.

" There is another point which I want to refer to and that is the subject-matter of the cut motion No. 50. In that I want to discuss the feasibility of transferring the Excise staff rendered superfluous by the introduction of Prohibition to the Prohibition staff and placing them under the control of the Police department and to discuss also the advantages arising therefrom not only to the Government but also to the parties concerned in the affair. Now, Sir, to start with, the Government thought that the best policy would be to entrust the working of Prohibition to the Police department. Very many reasons were advanced, but I do not think I am convinced with many of those reasons. The very serious problem that faces the Government—and that is also one of the reasons why they are not able to go faster as I would desire them to go—is that a very large staff is thrown out of employment and it is certainly a very serious matter, especially in these days of unemployment, which Government have to consider before they take any action in that direction. Nearly two years have elapsed since Prohibition was introduced to some extent in this Presidency. Experience in its working must have shown that the Police department is not the only department that can successfully work out Prohibition. If the Excise staff that becomes superfluous by reason of the introduction of Prohibition in one district were to be transferred to work under the control of the Police department, of course keeping in view the general policy initiated by the Government intact, then the question of throwing these people out of employment will not arise. What is happening is this and it is worth considering. There is a certain staff of the Excise department, for instance, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, petty officers and peons, which is thrown out as district after district is brought under Prohibition. Other departments are approached, particularly the Police department, with a view to assimilate and absorb this staff which has been thrown out from the Excise department. That, I submit, is a round-about method. I would suggest that instead of throwing them out of employment and

then asking the Police department to re-employ them when they are themselves recruiting fresh staff, you should straightaway transfer these people to the Police department, so that the Police department would train them and then they will be useful for work in the very department of Prohibition itself. If that is done, I am sure the Excise staff thus thrown out and trained under the Police department will be best fitted to work the Prohibition policy, rather than the people of the Police department itself. The other day, the Government made us to understand that two Inspectors of Excise have been trained for work in Prohibition. But, I should think it is not only the case of one or two Inspectors that is really concerned in the affair.

" I want the Hon. the Premier to realize the difficulties and the very many hardships caused to the staff of the Excise department that is thrown out of employment by reason of this policy. First of all, there is the question that at present the Government have abolished promotions from one grade to another. Sir, there have been cases of Excise staff who have put in long years of service and they have been expecting promotions from grade to grade. But this chance of promotion is now taken away and this will not conduce to efficiency if they are allowed to suffer.

" In the next place, there is the question of confirmation of clerks and other menial staff of the Excise department. And as a result of the introduction of this Prohibition policy, the entire thing is kept in suspense and these poor clerks and peons cannot expect any confirmatiou, pending the working out of the policy. As a matter of fact, there are persons who have put in three, five, seven and ten years of service and if these people are thrown out, the chance of confirmation in the department is denied to them. That is again another hardship to these people.

" Again, Sir, there is the question of pension; there are several persons who are about to retire on pension after long years of service and at the fag end of their service if they are not to get the pay they have rightly earned, their pension is affected. Therefore, Sir, on account of this Prohibition policy, if they are not to be confirmed, or promoted and are made to stay where they are and kept in suspense, that means they will not be able to draw their usual pension which they would otherwise legitimately get. That is a very serious hardship to people who have put in 20, 25 or 30 years of service. Sir, you have created expectations very rightly and legitimately in these people and if these expectations are not realized, then it is a very serious hardship to them.

" There is also another aspect of the case, and that is in the case of people of middle-age who have attained the age of 35, 40 and 45, if they are thrown out of employment and made to seek employment elsewhere; this will create a sense of unrest and discontent among the people who are employed. Not only

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that, their relations and other dependants also get discontented. Therefore, Sir, the lesser of the evils and the most feasible and practicable and the course that would cause the least hardship and the least inconvenience to the interests concerned, will be merely to transfer those people as time goes on to the department which you have now selected for working out the policy, instead of merely saying that their services would be terminated and that they should seek employment elsewhere, either in the Revenue, Police or some other department. The result of asking them to seek employment elsewhere will be that they have to wait at the mercy of the heads of those departments for months and years and you will be allowing those heads of departments to condemn some, re-employ some and then say, they are not fit. I say, let there be a more comprehensive policy in regard to this matter. Of course the Government have rightly or wrongly chosen the Police department to work this Prohibition policy. Let all those who are disbanded from the Excise department be transferred automatically and as a matter of principle to the Police department. They may not be for the time being fit for criminal detection, because the work they have been doing all along is merely preventive. The officers of the Excise department have experience of detecting cases of illicit distillation, preventing leakage, smuggling and illicit sales and seeing that the rules and regulations of the Abkari Act are properly carried out. If that were the case, where is the difficulty for them to work this Prohibition policy? The difficulty is not there; if at all there is any, it only exists in the imagination. Now, the Police department does that very kind of work though there may be a difference in species. If they prevent ordinary crime according to penal laws, the Excise department prevents crime according to the Abkari and other special Acts. So, there is not much difference. After all, Sir, if only some training is given to them and above all, if they are kept under Police supervision and superintendence, I do not see any difficulty of their going astray or proving inefficient or unfit for the work. I therefore suggest that it is safe and also sound in the interests of the Excise department as well as in the interests of the Government employees, in the interests of satisfaction and contentment of the Excise staff also, that as and when such persons are thrown out of employment as a result of the extension of Prohibition, they should be transferred to the Police department, if that department is to be the only department which should continue to be in charge of the working of Prohibition.

" Sir, I do not think I need take up any more of the time of the House. There is one further argument that might be advanced and that is to say, that it might involve more cost if the staff of the Excise department is sought to be transferred to the Police department. But I do not think there need be really any great

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fear about that. I have obtained certain figures which will go to show that there is not much difference. It is not the case that the Police department will be able to manage with the present staff for working out the Prohibition scheme. Not at all. They have as a matter of fact employed extra hands; they have employed extra Sub-Inspectors, extra head constables, extra constables, extra clerks. If they required such persons, they could have transferred the Sub-Inspectors, head constables, constables and clerks from the Excise department itself, because these officers are available in the Excise department; but the difficulty will be only in the case of peons, because they may not be as capable as the Police constables. But I think even in their case a little training will make them fit for the work and the deficiency will be made up. So, I do not think there will be any great difficulty even from the point of view of cost or finance. I would therefore submit in all humility that the *Government would be pleased to consider these aspects of the question in the larger interests of the services and in the larger interests of the community at large.*"

* Sri Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, my cut motion has been aimed at discussing the desirability of working the Prohibition policy by the Excise staff. Before I go to that point, I would like to make a few preliminary observations with reference to the administration of the Excise branch during the year under review. It affords very interesting reading. For one thing, we anticipated a great fall in Excise receipts since Prohibition has been working for the last several months. But it has been found that the receipts have been very slightly affected. For instance, we find from the Administration Report of the Excise department for the year 1937–38 that there has been an increase in revenue. It is anomalous to expect an increase in revenue under this head when the Government are out to introduce Prohibition and reduce the sale of spirituous liquors. Sir, we find that the position has been very aptly summed up by the *Board of Revenue* in these words:—

> 'There was an increase in the consumption of country spirits and opium and a decrease in that of hemp drugs and foreign liquor. The decrease under foreign liquor was mainly in respect of beer. The duty on country spirits was reduced by about 25 per cent throughout the Presidency with effect from 1st April 1935 and the consumption of country spirits showed an increase of 19 per cent in 1935–36, 4 per cent in 1936–37 and 9·5 per cent in 1937–38. The introduction with effect from 1st April 1937 of the sale of cheap ippa arrack in Chicacole circle had the desired effect of checking *illicit distillation in that area.*'

My point in referring to this passage in the Board's report is to show that in spite of the endeavour made by the Government to reduce the consumption of liquor, somehow or other the consumption of liquor has been on the increase and there has been no change in the matter of revenue derived therefrom. In fact,

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the revenue has been on the increase. The increase amounts to Rs. 11,45,197 and that increase occurs under country spirits, malt liquors, such as beer manufactured in this country, wines and spirits and opium. These are the items that contribute to the rise. I submit this fact seems to indicate that we cannot shut our eyes to existing conditions and that human nature being what it is, the eradication of the drink evil requires a sustained moral and social effort for a long period of time. This position was pointedly described by Sir Ardheshar Dalal in his presidential speech at the annual meeting of the Chambers of Commerce, Calcutta. He is in a position to take an unbiassed view of the situation; being outside this Province, he is competent to make a pronouncement with regard to the actual working of Prohibition. This is what he says:—

> 'The eradication of the drink evil requires a sustained moral and social effort for a long period of time. If an attempt is made to bring about results in two or three years, crores of rupees of public revenue so urgently needed for every form of nation-building activity are sacrified and extraordinary heavy burdens are imposed upon the people with the result that the financial structure of the Province may suffer a shock from which it will find itself difficult to recover.'

It is on the last portion of his remark, namely, that financial structure of the country will suffer a shock from which it will be difficult to recover, that I would lay emphasis and respectfully call the attention of the Government. It is time we consider whether the financial structure has had any shock, from the introduction of Prohibition. We have reached a stage at which we are in a position to state that the financial structure of this Province has had a shock and evidence therefore is not far to seek. I am not against Prohibition as such; on the other hand, I am for a sustained moral and social effort continued for a long time to effect Prohibition. Meanwhile, it should be possible for us to find ways and means of replacing the enormous loss of the revenue, which we would eventually have to give up. Already, there has been a sacrifice to the tune of about forty-two lakhs of rupees due to the introduction of Prohibition in three districts. Government are being hard put to it to find ways and means of replacing that loss and resort is being had to additional sources of taxation for the reason that it is not possible to work Prohibition except at a very great sacrifice.

"We are very often referred to the report of the Special Officer in charge of Prohibition in Salem. From a perusal of the last available report on the subject embodied in G.O. No. 2846, Revenue, dated the 3rd November 1938, we find that the District Collector is not so pronounced in his opinion as to the unalloyed success of the scheme of Prohibition in Salem. There are indications in the report of very grave apprehensions that other drugs

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are rapidly taking the place of liquor. This is what the Board says in its report:

'It was, however, subsequently found impossible to get a true list of addicts and experience showed that there was grave danger of many persons who have been deprived of liquor turning to ganja-smoking.'

"Turning to the cases reported and detected during the year we find that it is 1,335. Of this more than half the total number related to drugs. I think that this should be an eye-opener to the Government. If more than half the number of cases related to drugs, it means that people who had been previously addicted to drinking liquor are now drifting towards drugs. It is very easy to conceal and carry about drugs and that is the reason why people deprived of liquor have taken to them. Drugs, Sir, are more injurious than liquor. Further, we see from the report that 110 cases referred to illicit distillation of liquor and 99 to the possession of illicitly distilled arrack. Thus we have it on record that out of the 1,335 cases 209 cases were connected with the illicit distillation of liquor. That indicates that illicit distillation is rife in Salem and surrounding places just as they were prior to the introduction of Prohibition. I submit, Sir, that illicit distillation is a very serious problem; not only because it involves loss of revenue to the Government but also because it goes counter to the Prohibition programme of Government. Hence, Sir, the need for a social and moral effort in that direction. Going further into the report we see—

'The effective manner in which illicit distillation has been controlled has been a surprise to many. Illicit distillation was fairly rife in pre-Prohibition days, the average number of persons committing this type of crime being 265. During the year under review, only 110 persons were convicted and yet illicit distillation has been well kept under control.'

This is a state of affairs, I submit, on which the Collector of Salem could not justifiably congratulate himself. Two hundred and sixty-five was the number that committed this type of crime during the pre-Prohibition period and 120 is the number that are now committing this crime. And this in spite of the enormous precautions that have been taken consequent on the introduction of Prohibition. I do not think that in the circumstances one can take credit for successfully working Prohibition in that district. I do not mean any disparagement to the officers charged with that responsibility and the whole thing could be traced to the want of the moral background and social effort which ought to have preceded the introduction of Prohibition. Reasons that have contributed to the satisfactory control of illicit distillation have been given; but my point is that illicit distillation has been going on, though not to the same extent as before, but to an extent that does no credit to the precautions that have been taken. My object in explaining the situation is this. If it had been possible to detail the Excise staff on this piece of work, we

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might probably have had better results in the matter of the detection of crimes. The Excise staff, as I stated during the general discussion of the Budget, is in a better position to track excise criminals than the non-Excise men; they know the *modus operandi* of the criminals; they know their ways and have a life-long experience of such practices and they would do certainly better than the non-Excise staff employed for the purpose. Even now, Sir, a major portion of the cases has been brought to book at the instance of the members of the Prohibition Committee, and the members of the public, and other informants. If the Excise staff had been employed on this business, I am sure better results would have been obtained; the presence of such experienced people on the Prohibition staff would have its effect upon those that engage in that trade. Instead, we find that these things are entrusted to people who are unaccustomed to this sort of work and people are kept back from their legitimate duty, a duty which they can perform with greater efficiency than others.

"What about expenditure? I find from the calculations made by me with reference to the Budget estimates that a total sum of Rs. 1,88,000 has been saved by the retrenchment of Excise staff in Salem, while 2 lakhs of rupees have been spent in the employment of the Police staff. That shows that we have not gained anything in the matter. Expenditure continues to be the same; in fact, there is a slight increase over the previous expenditure. That is another reason, Sir, why we should have recourse to the Excise staff, for thereby we would have efficiency combined with economy. Further people who entered the department with certain legitimate aspirations and prospects have been for no fault of theirs kept back from further advancement. In other Provinces like Bombay and Bihar, the scheme has been worked successfully by the Excise staff themselves and we have not heard any complaints against their employment. We have not heard any complaint that the Excise staff is prejudiced or that they have not been dutiful with reference to the scheme of Prohibition. The Hon. the Premier thought that their outlook was bad; that the Excise staff was intended to get revenue for the Government and that it would not be possible for them to divest themselves of their ideas and to work in the new direction now required of them. Sir, if it is the object of this Government to get revenue from this 4–3
particular branch of revenue administration the subordinates p.
adapted themselves to this aspect of work. But if the object of the Government is not to make revenue but to simply enforce Prohibition, then too, I say, the officers of the department will undoubtedly adapt themselves to that line of work. So it is not just that all these officers should be kept out of their legitimate aspirations.

"Secondly, as has been pointed out by my hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, there is also the question of acting or

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probationary Sub-Inspectors and other subordinate staff. These officers have been serving for the last several years, and for no fault of theirs they have been kept out of confirmation or promotion. Men have entered service under certain expectations of promotion, etc.; and if they are kept out of confirmation or promotion it entails considerable hardship on them. In this connexion, Sir, I may also mention the case of peons employed in the Excise department; their case deserves serious consideration. It is not possible as in the case of certain other employees to transfer these people to the Police or other departments mainly on account of their age.

"It may be argued that the Excise staff, when employed to work Prohibition, cannot be placed under the Police department. But this difficulty can be got over by making the Excise staff a special branch under the Inspector-General of Police, just as the 'motor vehicles branch.' This branch though it does not really form part of the Police department, works under the orders of the Inspector-General of Police and the expenditure is credited to the Police department. So also, Sir, the Prohibition staff consisting of Excise men can be placed as a special branch under the Inspector-General of Police. They can be given certain Police powers and armed with such powers it would be possible for them to enforce the Prohibition Act with success. I would therefore appeal to the Hon. the Premier and also the Hon. the Minister in charge of Excise not to shut out the Excise staff altogether in the working of the Prohibition Act. The Excise staff has already lost its pride, and once the spirit is taken away, it is not possible to get them attend to their work as efficiently as it will be otherwise possible. I would once again appeal to both the Ministers to kindly consider the question of working Prohibition in Salem and in other districts wherever it may be introduced in due course with the Excise staff."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Mr. Speaker, my idea in giving this cut motion is to bring to the notice of this House a few points of difficulty in working this Prohibition Act. Sir, the present Government deserve every support for having passed the Prohibition Act. As per the Government Order passed recently, we are given to understand that it is a success, that especially the masses in the rural areas are appreciating this measure, and that there is every reason that it should be extended to other districts. My hon. Friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman is talking on this motion separately and therefore I leave it to him to request the Hon. the Premier to introduce Prohibition in Kurnool district, where people are very anxious to work it.

"Before going into details, I want just to say in passing that the counter-attraction for the addicts of toddy and other spirituous liquors by opening tea and coffee shops should be deprecated. Sir, as most of the Members are aware, tea-taking is a

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very bad habit. Once a man gets into the habit, it is very difficult for him to get out of it. Now, our idea in introducing Prohibition is to make the poor man give up the evil habit of drinks. Now by giving this counter-attraction, that is, opening tea and coffee shops, we are dragging the poor man into another evil. From the report of the Tea Market Expansion Board and the Coffee Cess Committee, we understand that the sales of coffee and tea have risen up very high during the last two years in those Prohibition areas. Therefore I would request the present Government and social workers to deprecate this sort of counter-attraction, and instead open some other useful shops containing fruit juices, fruit salads, jellies, jams and marmalades, and milk depots.

"Now coming to the actual difficulties we are experiencing in the Prohibition areas, I would like to say, as a medical practitioner that the doctors in those areas are very much handicapped, because of imposition of licences for keeping spirit like brandy and some other medicated wines in stock. This imposition of licence on medical men and medical institutions is really a handicap to the efficient discharge of our duties. Sir, we are already feeling the burden of the Dangerous Drugs Act; we have to maintain many accounts on that score, and in addition to them, we have now to keep accounts for licences of these medicated wines and other spirituous preparations; I think we have to maintain a separate office for this particular branch. Sir, if these medicinal preparations containing spirits are controlled so rigidly, I think, we have to resort to the use of powders and pills as our brethren in other systems of medicine, viz., Homeopathy and Siddha systems are doing. Therefore I request, Sir, that a certain amount of leniency be shown by giving free licences to medical practitioners and the Government may have a sort of check over the consumption of such preparations.

"Now, coming to the recent Bill amending the Prohibition Act with reference to advertisement of medicated wines, I supported Government in their endeavour to see the essential part of the Act is not lost sight of by allowing persons to obtain spirituous liquor in the name of medicine. I admit the value of it and the necessity for it. But I for one will say that the better and more practical method would have been by making medicated wine obtainable only when the prescription is given by a medical man. As it is, the amendment appears to be without much effect and does not satisfactorily solve the question.

"Sir, with regard to advertisements in medical journals of medicated wines approved by the Medical Council or some such similar body, I would like to say a word. Sir, it may be extended to other journals too, because I feel that some medical men in the mufassal are not able to subscribe for these medical journals and get them; so much so patients are not able to avail themselves

of these preparations, as some of these doctors are not in touch with the up-to-date medicated wines. I, therefore, suggest that if there is any possibility for amending the Act further, I request advertisements may be extended to at least some of the monthly and weekly journals, as it would be a great help to the medical profession and also to the public.

"Finally, Sir, coming to the Madras Abkari Act, 1886, I would like to say a word. As I suggested last year, this Act has become very old, and under that Act the Police may arrest without warrant in any public thoroughfare or open space or within dwelling-house any person committing an offence under section 55 of that Act. Sir, under the pretext of that Act, Excise officers are doing the greatest injustice to the poor labourers, who are being caught in the open space and booked, leaving the actual offenders scot-free. There are several such cases in the mufassal. I think since last year these Excise offences have been reduced to some extent because of Prohibition, and I still maintain that this Abkari Act should be amended suitably."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, ordinarily I would not have risen to support this cut motion, because I have myself been pledged to Prohibition, as it were, not imposed by this Government, but by my own faith. But one statement, coming from the speech of the Hon. Minister for Finance, in his last Budget speech makes me ponder a little over it and ask, whether other considerations than what have been pointed out in his speech are not involved in this policy of Prohibition. In the speech that he delivered in this House a few days ago, the Hon. Prime Minister said, 'What is this thing called Excise revenue? It is a heavy indirect taxation on the poorest classes; and therefore, the demand that Prohibition should not be extended in order that we might not have an increased gap between revenue and expenditure means, in fact, a demand that the poorest should be taxed through drink rather than that alternative taxation should be devised.' Sir, I have in this connexion had the opportunity of reading the debates in this House in connexion with the introduction of the Bill prohibiting drink—and I have read again and again—and I find that the only argument that has been advanced against drink is that it is an evil thing to allow drink and so it should be prohibited. The consideration was not whether it affected the poor or the rich, but that it was an evil in itself, and that was sufficient reason for its being prohibited; this consideration weighs very heavily with the Hon. the Premier, and I certainly think it is a good measure from that point of view. A statement like the present, however, coming from the Hon. Premier makes one think whether it is a fact that the enormous revenue of five crores which is collected by this Government is a contribution made purely by the poor. It may be the general impression. It may also be true that we come across in drink shops in the streets

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a number of poor people drinking and they might have attracted our attention. But, has it been proved mathematically or examined from the standpoint of statistics that might be available on the subject, whether this enormous revenue of five crores of rupees under ' Excise ' has been contributed for all these years only by the poorer class of drinkers of this country? For the purpose of argument I may be allowed to make mention about the population of this Province. The approximate population of this Province is said to be about five crores, of which the so-called poorer classes, or the poorer classes being synonymous with the labouring classes, may be put down at 10 per cent of the entire population that is about 50 lakhs. These 50 lakhs constituting the poor and labouring classes in this country, are they the only people who contribute this enormous revenue of 5 crores of rupees to the Government? In order to accumulate a revenue of about 5 crores an expenditure of about Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores will have to be incurred by the people. If the poor men are able to spend Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores, we will have to discover as to what their sources of income should have been. The average income of an individual of this Province cannot, under existing circumstances, be put at more than about one anna per head per day. On that basis—I would call this a very liberal basis—if a person were to earn one anna per day it will not be more than Rs. 2 per month or Rs. 24 per year. If that is the earning capacity of the masses of the people in this Presidency, I can certainly say, it must be much less with what we call the poorer classes. Even if it is taken at its best, it cannot be more than about Rs. 20 per head. On this basis, are we to assume that these 50 lakhs of people who constitute the poorer classes of this Presidency throw away all their earnings in a year to the tune of Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores to contribute this enormous revenue to the Government? Sir, at that rate, it will not come to even half the amount of the revenue that is being collected in this Province and it is going to be much less, if we compare the general output of money that is involved in the expenditure towards drink. Therefore, Sir, that is the baffling question to me. I should have been pleased if the Government instead of making a sweeping statement that the entire revenue is contributed by the poor, were pleased to place facts so that we might have been convinced that it was purely contributed by the poor and the rich had no contribution to make towards it. On the contrary, Sir, I am led to believe or conclude that the contribution is made more from the rich than from the poorer classes. It might be very visible, but visibility should not be confused with the contribution towards the revenues of the State. If the rich should be contributing, it should be taken more as a penalty for drinking than as a tax they are paying to the revenues of the State. And when the rich are drinking, certainly, Sir, they deserve to be penalized. We should not be surprised that amongst the various evils that have followed in the wake of modern civilization this should have been one developing in the

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secret meshes of society and we do not know of the enormity of this spirituous liquor that is consumed in secret. Therefore, Sir, in spite of the elaborate report referred to by me and in spite of the wonderful praise that has been poured upon the policy of Prohibition by the Officer in charge at Salem, I fail to find out a statistical report to point out as to what they consider to be the poor classes and as to the percentage of the poor classes that drink as compared with the percentage of the other classes that also drink. Statistics of that kind could have been a better argument than a sweeping statement of this kind. Therefore, it is my intention to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that they should have fortified themselves with facts and figures before they could make a statement of this kind and come to this House for a demand of this enormous sum. Therefore, Sir, I press that this cut motion be taken up and that the Government should convince us with facts and figures in support of their statement before we can deem this cut motion as withdrawn."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of three cut motions on this demand. Out of these three, it is not my idea to speak at length on the cut motion which is to impress upon the Government the need for a thorough investigation into the state of corruption now prevailing in the Excise department. It is enough for me to point out to the Government the need for investigating into the state of affairs. Then I pass on to the other cut motions that I have given notice of.

" Sir, I whole-heartedly support the policy of Prohibition. It makes very little difference to me whether it is the rich or the poor who pay for drink. Whether it is paid for by the poor or the rich it is a bad thing. None should drink whether he be rich or poor. I, therefore, Sir, feel that Prohibition is really a great boon to the poor as well as the rich. If I am ever asked, ' What is the benefit that this present Government have conferred on the people of this Province? ' I will straightaway say that it is ' Prohibition.' Sir, it is important to realize the significance of this great policy. If the Hon. the Prime Minister allows me to use the parable that he has used elsewhere, I may say, it is a new boat in which we are expected to sail. Sir, in the old days the policy was to take the people to the land of misery, to the land of drink where the people squandered away their money and suffered a good deal for it. The present Government with their new boat take the people from the land of misery to the new land of peace and harmony. Sir, it is in this light that I support the present policy. If the Government can be congratulated on any of their policies, I think, it is on the policy of Prohibition that they can be congratulated. Sir, the Government cannot be discredited, if a few cases of illicit distillation take place here and there. (Hon. Premier: ' Hear, hear.') There is bound to be leakage in

any system and in any programme and for that matter we cannot decry the whole system. For instance, we have got the Penal Code. Yet, we hear of robberies and other offences. That does not mean, just because these offences take place, the whole penal law should be scrapped. That is no argument. If we introduce a policy, and certainly when it is a policy for the good of the people, then I feel that the policy must be pursued in spite of the few leakages that we may notice here and there.

"Sir, I have but one complaint about this policy and it is regarding the selection of districts for the introduction of Prohibition. Time and again I have pointed out the need for Prohibition in the Ceded districts. I am sorry to say that my appeal has not met with any response from the Government. Sir, I should not be misunderstood to say that I am against the expansion of Prohibition in Salem, Chittoor, Cuddapah or North Arcot. I whole-heartedly congratulate the people of these districts on the great boon that has been conferred on them. But at the same time it is my painful duty to point out to the Government that Prohibition has not been introduced in our districts also. I hope the Hon. the Prime Minister would find his way to do so at least next year. It was a great disappointment to us when we learned from him the other day that Prohibition was proposed to be introduced in only one district, namely, North Arcot. It is known very well that our districts are very backward from every point of view; our agriculture is poor, our industry is actually nil, and our education thoroughly lacking. It is on account of these reasons, Sir, that the drink evil is at its highest pitch in our parts. We know what drink means to a poor family; it means starvation and death. I understand that my district yields about Rs. 22 lakhs whereas the North Arcot district yields a drink revenue of Rs. 7 lakhs. That will show the great extent of drink evil in our districts. In choosing Salem, Chittoor and North Arcot districts in preference to our districts, the Government show a lack of appreciation of the extent of drink evil in various parts of the Province.

"Sir, it is not that there is no enthusiasm for Prohibition in our districts. The Government must have received the resolutions that were passed in meetings of the municipalities, meetings of the district boards and other public meetings. They must have been an eye-opener to the Government regarding the enthusiasm of the people in this matter. But in spite of all this the Government are deaf to our appeals and Prohibition does not come. Sir, I point out as other hon. Members have pointed out that the introduction of Prohibition in the Province is very slow indeed. I for one feel that the Prohibition policy should be pursued with greater speed, even if it means money to us. I am one of those members who feel that for the sake of Prohibition we are even entitled to tax the people though not in a very objectionable

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manner. For instance, Sir, a tax on petrol or entertainment, as I have pointed out in my general speech on the Budget is a tax which cannot be said to do much harm to the people and which can still get some money with which we can carry on the policy of Prohibition. The Government may refer to one reason against the introduction of Prohibition in our parts, namely, the difficulty due to proximity of the Indian States. We will have this trouble, as I pointed out in the general speech the other day, for all time. In the case of Salem there was some such trouble from Mysore. I understand, Sir, that some sort of arrangement with the Government of Mysore has been arrived at. If this is possible in the case of Salem, I do not understand how it is a difficult matter in the case of Kurnool and the other Ceded districts. Sir, these difficulties must not be exaggerated. After all the Government are bent upon introducing Prohibition throughout the Province. It is only a question of time as to when these districts should get the reform. If it is not to-day, it may be to-morrow. So this question cannot be delayed for ever.

"I think, I have dealt with most of my arguments in my general speech and I do not think that it is necessary for me to dilate on them any more. I request the Hon. the Premier to give us an assurance, if he can, that Prohibition will certainly be introduced in our districts at least next year."

).m. * MR. E. H. M. BOWER:—"Sir, I rise to support the numerous amendments put in by various members of this Assembly to discuss the present Prohibition policy. The position of the Government is an unenviable one. Without examining the implications of the policy, they decided to introduce Prohibition at all costs. Its fundamental error lies in its failure to realize that Prohibition is not a temperate, but an intemperate measure, and that Prohibition would force it into an intemperate attitude all round. What do we see to-day? Three districts are deprived of the Excise revenue, and a fourth district is to follow in October. The people of these three districts, we are told, are now better off than they were. But how much better off are they? And how long will it be before they are worse off, with the new taxation now threatening them? These stories of lakhs of rupees saved by the people of Salem, Chittoor and Cuddapah make very soothing reading but we have lost in one year in these three districts about half a crore of rupees in Excise revenue. What proof is there that the people of these districts have saved even one-tenth of that amount, over and above their previous annual savings? We are told that there is practically no drinking in these districts. And yet there are hundreds of thousands of trees marked for sweet toddy in them. Who buys this sweet toddy? A very small proportion is purchased by the sugar makers. Sweet toddy is primarily a drink. How much emphasis we are to lay on the adjective 'sweet' and how much on the substantive 'toddy,' is

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a matter of opinion and individual taste. I am sure the Hon. the Premier will lay the whole stress on the adjective 'sweet.' The licensee, on the other hand, would place the emphasis on the substantive 'toddy.' Then there is the question of country liquor. Can the Government assert there are no illicit stills in the Prohibition areas?

"Sir, all that we can be certain about is that there is no Excise *revenue* derived from these three districts. We cannot say that there is no illicit drinking in them. We cannot even say that there is very little illicit drinking in them. But as the Premier has committed himself to what I call the intemperate statement that fermented and spirituous liquor is poison, and as the Premier is convinced that his will is the will of the people, Excise revenue must steadily dwindle and vanish. This intemperate attitude has naturally led to intemperate results. We have seen taxes imposed on various classes of people who are already taxed, such as the users of petrol, and we find that the Government with their noble sentiments in the matter of the consumption of spirits think nothing of breaking their implied contracts with their own servants by depriving them of their long acknowledged right to commute their pensions, and by cutting their salaries. They think nothing of breaking their own election pledges to the voters that they would bring them relief from taxation. They think nothing of appropriating by sheer force 40 lakhs of rupees belonging to the minor ports. To us on this side of the House, Sir, it is a curious phenomenon that an extraordinarily high standard of ethics proclaimed by the Government in one matter should be made the justification for a questionable standard of ethics in several other directions. I admit that we have been informed by the Treasury bench that all these infringements of what we consider to be equitable rights are for the benefit of the individuals and interests concerned. We have been told by the Minister for Public Works that the Government have discovered that the Minor Ports Fund has not been properly administered, and so in future the Government will be a partner with the minor ports to look after their interests. The Congress lion and the Ports Fund lamb have therefore entered into partnership, and the greater part of the lamb has already disappeared within the jaws of the lion to pay for Prohibition."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—"I raise a point of order, Sir, whether the hon. Member can raise other subjects such as the Ports Fund and whether he can read from a manuscript. These are the two points I raise."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"He balances one thing against the other." (Hear, hear.)

* Mr. E. H. M. BOWER:—"We have been told by the Hon. the Premier that the stoppage of commutation of pensions is in the interests of the pensioners themselves."

Sri K. V. R. Swami again rose to a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER :—" What is the objection of the hon. Member? "

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" This is not a general discussion where he can refer to all subjects."

MR. SPEAKER :—" He does not. Does the hon. Member take objection on the ground of imtemperate attitude or intemperate speech? (Laughter.) I suppose he does not hold that the speech itself is intemperate."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" It is intemperate, Sir, in the sense that he is not referring to the subject of Excise only but to all subjects."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Mr. Bower will hereafter make a temperate speech." (Laughter.)

* MR. E. H. M. BOWER :—" I feel that Prohibition is the root of all this evil and that all the evil is due to Prohibition and to Prohibition alone. When by this stoppage thirteen lakhs of rupees have been appropriated by the Government towards the cost of Prohibition, the Premier apparently expects *everybody*, including the pensioners to be satisfied with his statement that the change has been made because of his great interest in their future!

" Meanwhile, the electorate in the cities and towns have begun to realize the situation and the unrest is extending to the villages. People are beginning to enquire whether they have not created a Frankenstein for their own destruction. It is true that the life of this Frankenstein is to continue for five years only, but in those five years it is quite possible for the Government with their present policy, to reduce the Province to a condition from which it will not recover for a quarter of a century.

" Sir, I was in Coimbatore town last week, and went out to make a small purchase. I failed in my object because there was a *hartal* due *to the threatened* sales tax, a tax *to pay for Prohibition*. And Coimbatore is merely an instance of what is happening everywhere in the Province. The Post office is reaping a rich harvest through the innumerable protests that reach members by each mail. Intemperance in legislation is bound to have its repercussions, and while the Province groans under the growing load of taxation, the Government actually try to make out that they are helping the prosperity of the people! History repeats itself and Nero fiddled while Rome burnt. What we in the Province need to-day, Sir, is a temperate Government and a temperate budget. This we shall never have so long as there is an intemperate view of the liquor problem."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I should be excused, Sir, for dealing with Mr. Bower first. Apart from my admiration for the extraordinary cleverness which Mr. Bower displays after retiring from the public service, I should like to pay him this compliment also. It is not usual for retired Government servants to be first-class parliamentarians, but Mr. Bower has shown by his performance to-day that he is quite capable of taking the Treasury bench if necessary on a wet plank. (Laughter.) But he should succeed with the electorate. I am quite prepared that this Frankenstein should retire even before the five years period and I am quite prepared to challenge Mr. Bower to get on that wet plank and capture the country's votes and take up responsibility, saying to the people, 'I shall make more people drink and I shall make this Government more prosperous, more successful and more popular.' All the other members were satisfied with pleading for the Excise department and only for the Excise department. I was getting rather tired of it, Sir, that after all I was hearing from the Opposition only a great, big, consolidated, concentrated plea for a particular department of the Government; but I was much relieved when a right-royal wet speech was made by Mr. Bower. He puts it frankly. He says Prohibition is wrong; he says the drink trade is good; he says the drink trade gives a revenue and that the Government ought to take that revenue to run the Government. He does not make contradictory statements. He does not say, 'Drink is bad; Prohibition is good; extend it all over the Presidency; but do not add the taxes on the people.' He does not say 'Pity the Excise officials; pity the tappers, pity everybody; keep them on somehow, and also run the Government by the money derived therefrom. But drink is bad and Prohibition is good.' Mr. Bower has no Bible, no Qoran, nothing whatsoever." (Laughter.)

* MR. E. H. M. BOWER:—"Pardon me, Sir. I follow the Bible."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I apologize, Sir . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the explanation of the hon. Member be heard."

* MR. E. H. M. BOWER:—"The Bible does not lay down in any part a particular dogma like this in the foreground. It puts the individual's choice first—freedom, i.e., freedom of conscience. You cannot make a man good by forcing him to be good. The good must come from inside."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I apologize for saying that Mr. Bower has no Bible. He has the Bible, no doubt; but, I am afraid he mixes up 19th century politics with the Bible. The freedom of the individual is not in the Bible. The Bible has much to say against spirituous liquor.

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Translators of the Bible have interfered very much with the Bible. (Laughter.) They have converted grape juice into wine. (Cries of 'No, no' from the European block.) But, all the same, Sir, that is not the point. I was saying that Mr. Bower was consistent in that he frankly says that drink revenue is good. I admire him as I said, but I cannot confess to any change of opinion after hearing Mr. Bower. It is not because in this particular matter I am obstinate, but it is because he has not been persuasive enough. I think he might perhaps have succeeded in persuading if, as you observed, Sir, he had been a little more temperate in the matter of his criticism. There is a little too much sweeping condemnation of Prohibition. If, as some other critics put it, we have not succeeded in Prohibition, there is the more possibility of my being convinced and this Government withdrawing Prohibition itself. But all the reports that we have received convince us, I am glad to say, that it has succeeded and that the attempts made by the members of the Opposition to show that it has not succeeded are a perfect failure. Very feeble attempts were made to read a sentence here and a sentence there. -15 p.m. But on the whole they have not succeeded in showing that the obvious is not true. It is obvious to any one who has read these reports that very fair and very cautious estimates have been made of the situation from time to time and yet there is enough evidence to show that we have succeeded. It may be that to the wet interests these may not be palatable. Yet it is true. It shows that India is a different country from other countries.

"Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan and many other members pleaded very pathetically for the Excise officials. I am not wanting in sympathy for those who are in trouble in that department. Let there be no mistake on that subject. Mr. Hameed Khan pleaded, 'Why should the Police be given this work? Let the Excise staff do this work.' Mr. Hussain said the same thing. Mr. Basheer said the same thing and other members also said the same thing. I was rather getting confused by this unanimity of opinion that the Excise staff would do better than the Police who have been entrusted with this work. I was wondering why this opinion was held by all the members of the Opposition benches. But I could see some light later on. If we had done any other thing they might have objected to that also. If we had entrusted it to the Revenue department they would have objected to it. They would then say: 'It is a crime; therefore it must go to the Police department.' If we had committed the detection of pure crime based upon total Prohibition to the Excise department, then it would be said that the Excise department was concerned with the regulation and not wholesale Prohibition and crime. In any country where a particular thing is wholly prohibited, it follows juridically that it is a crime when that prohibition is disregarded and therefore the Police naturally deal with crimes relating to

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that prohibition. That is the juridical explanation for the attitude of the Government. But taking practical things into account, people are likely to get an exaggerated notion of the situation, if they merely read the observations in the newspapers reporting the speeches made to-day from the Opposition benches. They might imagine that the Excise officials have been simply thrown into the street. But it is not the case. It is only a very gradual process that we have been following. We are apologetically carrying on this Prohibition policy. Four districts after two long years! That is what most people think. Even among those four districts, two of them are not, from the Excise point of view, very heavy. Such being the case, our progress being so slow, the discharge of the Excise officials also must be slow. It cannot be anything so terrible as people might imagine from merely reading superficial observations made.

"I have no hesitation in confessing that Prohibition, that is to say, interfering with the drink trade, means immediately—gradually or otherwise—throwing out of employment (out of that employment, I should say to be more correct) a large number of people who were previously engaged in that trade. The tappers will be thrown out of the business of drawing fermented liquor; the carriers of toddy will be thrown out of the employment of carrying fermented toddy; the sellers will be thrown out of the employment of selling fermented liquor; the Excise officials, to some extent, will be thrown out of the employment of regulating that particular trade. These are the natural and necessary consequences and nobody can deny that. It is unnecessary for members to concentrate on the Excise officials only. They might extend their sympathy to those categories of people which I have now given to the House. All of them are no doubt disturbed. But the question is: 'What is being done with those people?' If a bad business has to be closed down, one by one the people who are engaged in that business will have to find employment in other businesses and are finding employment in other businesses. There is no use in drawing sympathy from the unemployment point of view and putting it forward as an argument against closing down a particular bad business.

"Dealing with the Excise officials alone, let me mention to the House, Sir, that most of them have been absorbed in the other departments. Who are the people who have been thrown out? Only the new recruits and the probationers. They can easily be absorbed in similar, parallel departments and are being absorbed. Every concession and every consideration is being given to these people to facilitate this absorption and it is not a correct thing to say that we have, by our policy of Prohibition, thrown the Excise department into misery. Already many have been absorbed. I can say on the whole 80 sub-inspectors who were probationary sub-inspectors and who were not confirmed are awaiting such

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absorption. Thirty-four of them have been already absorbed. I am speaking with reference to the position on a previous date. I cannot get the figures up to date. But the position could only be better to-day and not worse; a few more people should have been absorbed. But the question is, however, a fundamental one. We cannot touch any such revenue without throwing out of gear the services engaged in that business previously.

" That alone is no argument. There is another point of view also pressed. It is said that they are most experienced in this work and the Government, from that point of view, would be better advised to have run it with those Excise officials. Upon that I beg leave to differ from the Opposition. I must take the responsibility, and the Government which is responsible for running it successfully will have to choose its services. But at the same time I have to say this that there is going to be every chance given to the Excise department. The first experiments were made with the Police department for the purposes of prevention and enforcement. The Excise department is also having its chance. Every district has its borders. It is up to the Excise officials in the districts surrounding the dry area to prove that they are fit for the task, that they are believers in the policy, that they are loyal to the programme and that they will prove their mettle; then they will get their chance. This has been definitely made known to the Excise department and the Excise department is being tried on that basis and I am therefore in a position to assure hon. Members who are anxious about the Excise department that that department will have its fair share, fair trial and in any case will not be turned into the streets.

" I am now coming to another fundamental proposition. As hon. Members know and in fact as they have tried to impress upon the House, we are not going to lose this revenue, but we are going to get it otherwise. No revenue can be got without a machinery for the collection of revenue. So, hon. Members may rest assured that we are going to run the administration and run it losing the drink revenue, but substituting for it other taxation and other revenues. Revenue will not pour down from the skies without an establishment and without a department running it; so that those people, who have hitherto been engaged in the collection of the Excise revenue and in the regulation of the drink trade, will have certainly Government occupation in other taxation departments, because as the one revenue goes, the other revenue comes in. Therefore this assurance ought to be enough for those who have been anxious about the particular department.

" Dr. Samuel was saying that he deprecates the substitution of tea and coffee. I join with him, Sir, in that. But let nobody imagine that the Government are running tea and coffee houses in Salem or that they are giving any encouragement to tea and coffee ventures in Salem. On the other hand, if only Dr. Samuel

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will turn round, he will see members who are complaining that tea and coffee are not being sufficiently encouraged by the Government and that the production and trade are low. It is wrong to imagine that tea and coffee are being boosted in Salem. Of course, tea and coffee people are wide awake; they go where there is room. But they have not made much headway, I am sure, because the poor people that drink toddy are not satisfied with tea or coffee. The hard addicts have told me in so many words, 'This hot water business is no good for us; we want the old thing.' So, let no one imagine that tea and coffee are going to replace alcohol and toddy. Tea and coffee, to a certain extent, will be a substitute and will not give the kind of satisfaction to people who have given up the alcoholic habit and who want a different kind of satisfaction altogether. Let those who have money to pay for it go in for it. The Government are not guilty of giving any undue encouragement to the poison known by the name of caffeine and tannin or whatever it may be. Dr. Samuel may rest content with this. It is true that we have not been able to induce the people who drink arrack and toddy in the dry districts to take to fruit juices and the like. It is far, far away from their notions of what is nice. Certain other classes of people may take to fruit juices. But they cannot be satisfied with that. I know the subject a little more than to be confused by arguments of that kind. 'The fruit juices are good, but alcohol is better,' that man would say. There is no good in placing that as a substitute before those people.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Ahmed Batcha raised a mathematical monster before me—a mathematical ghost, I should say. He calculated somehow in a rough way that it is not the poor people that have been paying the drink revenue. He says the average income of the people in Madras is one anna per day and that four crores of people of Madras earn the thing. It is 24 rupees per head per annum and that comes to 96 crores of rupees per annum. He somehow has jumped from that figure to the conclusion that therefore the poor people cannot pay 20 crores across the counter. I will finish the problem all right without your assistance. (M. Ahmed Batcha Sahib Bahadur: 'I never raised the question of the whole population.') If we proceed into the other ramifications of that mathematical sum that he put forward, we are left nowhere. We cannot draw any inference from the one anna average revenue. It is clear. So let us put aside that way of approach to this problem. What he contests is this: 'Have you proved that it is only the poor man that drinks? I do not feel satisfied on that point.' But I am satisfied, Sir, because the Excise report every year shows the various sums of money that come to the Government under the various sub-heads of the drink trade. I refer Mr. Ahmed Batcha to page 40 of the Explanatory Memorandum before him. He will see there the 5-1

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comparative receipts with reference first of all to country fermented liquor, which is toddy, to country spirits which is arrack, and wines and spirits which may be the rich man's drink. He can compare the columns and figures; if he does so, he will find that the vast bulk of the Excise revenue comes from toddy and arrack. Now, I maintain that, apart from a few exceptional cases, the generality of people are poor, who go to arrack and toddy and the generality of rich people, if they wish to approach alcohol, do it through champagne, brandy, whisky and the like. If we accept this analysis, I ask Mr. Ahmed Batcha to read the figures and it would be obvious that three-fourths of the four crores come from the poorest people. That is enough for my argument. It is not a universal proposition I lay down that no rich man gave this revenue and that it is only the poor man that gave this revenue. I am talking of the larger truth and of the sum total. Therefore what I have said should be quite enough to convince him that it is the poor man that pays this tax. If in the course of this year Mr. Ahmed Batcha tells me and proves to me that it is only the rich people that pay this tax, I promise I shall devise some measure by which we can make it alcohol-tight. But he must remember this condition. If he can make a proposal alcohol-tight I promise that I shall consent to any amendment he proposes by which the poor man can be saved and only the rich man can be left to himself. If he convinces me that there is such a practical method, *which is not water-tight but alcohol-tight*, I shall adopt his suggestion. I may tell him, however, that this is not possible. I am convinced, though I am open to persuasion, that it is impossible to save the poor if we wish to allow the rich people to drink; it will be made into a business. That is a difficulty. I shall not delay the House over this point any further.

" Mr. Appadurai Pillai was trying to prove from the reports of the Collectors of districts that they were not enthusiastic, that they were not convinced that everything was going on all right and, therefore, that things were not all right now. I am glad that Mr. Appadurai Pillai referred to that characteristic of these reports. These reports are not written by fanatics. These reports are not written by credulous people. In fact, these reports are written by sceptically-minded officials. Therefore they are more valuable. I ask Mr. Appadurai Pillai to read these reports fairly, without the Opposition bias, and he will see in them sufficient material to come to this conclusion that there has been wonderful success on which he should congratulate not us but the people as a whole and everybody concerned. It is a wonderful success. That is proved by these documents produced by very careful and sceptically-minded people. All the more valuable therefore is their evidence. Mr. Appadurai Pillai says that 1,335 cases of illicit practice have been prosecuted and that half of them are drug cases. Well, what does this prove? Mr. Appadurai Pillai seems alarmed by it, but I know that if in a district there are 25 lakhs

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ɪf people, and if the 25 lakhs of people had a toddy shop in every ·illage previously and where we have now none at all, these 1,335 ases for a whole year or nine months is not much. We have more ases, as Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan proved, in regard to the umerous prohibition sections of the Indian Penal Code than in egard to the infringement of the Prohibition Act. Mr. Rahman Khan has very nobly taken up this work on our behalf in answerng these points. He has as effectively and as nobly pointed out hat it is not a failure and that all the evidence that have been ttempted to be pointed out by some of the brother members of he Opposition are not really evidence of failure but proofs of sucess and very good success. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'So all pposition is not bad.') All opposition is not bad, but almost all pposition is bad. (Laughter.) However, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan has followed it up saying, 'Introduce it everywhere. ntroduce it in Kurnool and everywhere else.' I wish we could o so, Sir. It is not for want of enthusiasm or for want of desire hat we have not yet done so. It is due to hesitation; the slow pace s due to hesitation born out of the difficulty with regard to finances nd nothing else. But we shall get over them.

"Some members have, on this point, given advice. They have aid, 'You must not tax in such haste. You must just tax to neet the deficit.' Something like this was suggested: 'You must ust tax to meet the deficit of the year if at all. You must always ntroduce Prohibition and then follow up with taxes.' Now, that s not financially correct. It is not the proper ways-and-means pproach. You must first make up and then lose. That is the roper thing to do. It is not wise policy to lose first and then o to the people and ask them to pay. How can any Government e run that way? We have to make up first. The Government annot take casual leave for one year and then come back afterwards with new taxes. No tax will be paid if the Government took asual leave. We are like the human heart. In the human natomy the heart has to be throbbing all the time. Similarly, he Government have to be throbbing all the time, incessantly. Whether people are awake or asleep, the Government have to go n. Then only life can be maintained and new taxes can come nd old taxes can go. Therefore the advice that we must not levy axes, until we have introduced Prohibition all over cannot be ccepted.

"The whole of the argument from the Opposition on this nfortunate Demand made by my Colleague in charge of Excise evenue is that the Budget is mixed up inextricably with all these axation proposals, all these things come back upon Prohibition olicy only; and therefore they say, 'Prohibition is wrong; give up, do not bring in new taxes and leave us where we are.' This s the advice of the Opposition. Only they do not give it in such

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brutal terms. They do not wish to give it in such brutal terms because it would not appeal. They say Prohibition has not succeeded; Excise officials are in trouble; the reports are not very enthusiastic and new taxation is very bad; let us pass no new taxes. All these come really to this that the poor people who pay the vast bulk of the four crores of taxes should continue to pay them, that this taxation should be continued so that the others may not be taxed in the new forms that we propose. I submit it is a heartless proposal. I submit it is, if not heartless, a hasty proposal. It is impossible to allow the poor man to support the whole of this structure. It is impossible to allow the man who drinks toddy and arrack to support the costly structure of the Government of Madras. We must ask the merchants to support the structure. We have announced the taxes. While we are busy otherwise, every advantage is being taken for rousing up an agitation against the new taxes. We do not feel surprised by it. No new taxes can be levied without opposition being raised. It is quite natural; but what is the meaning of it, we must think. The whole House must co-operate in this matter. I made an appeal in introducing the Budget exactly for this reason; I made an appeal to the House for co-operation. Why? It was not merely an empty sentimental phrase. I said, 'co-operate' for this reason: we are losing this drink revenue. Do you want us to lose it or not? We have got calamities, unforeseen or foreseen. You say, 'Put them aside. Let us take Prohibition alone. This drink revenue is a good revenue. All good people are agreed about it. We cannot lose it and maintain the present standard of administration.' If we lose it, how can we maintain the present standard of administration unless we levy new taxes? What are the new taxes that we can possibly levy? It is no use saying, 'You propose and then we will criticize.' The only possible and good and elastic tax that the Government of India have given to us is the sales tax and we propose to levy it. The merchants have to bear it. They think that the consumers have to bear it and some others think, 'Why make the consumers or the merchants pay? Is it not better that we get these taxes out of drink and make them support this costly administration?' I must say once for all that our policy is that the burden of taxation should be shifted from the village to the town. If anybody opposes it, he must take up the responsibility. We cannot accept that policy. And who are the people in the town that will bear it? I ask hon. Members to consider it frankly, honestly, and earnestly and tell me frankly this: Is the Provincial Government financed satisfactorily by the merchant classes to-day? They are, no doubt, satisfactorily financing the Central Government and a miserable portion of it, no doubt, is coming to us by the recent arrangements after going through various processes and channels. But on the whole it seems to this Government absolutely necessary that a greater burden should be borne by the trading classes in the expenditure

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of the Provincial Government, if we have to relieve the cultivator who raises the food for the people, who raises what sustains the people and in so producing one hundred rupees worth of food pays the Government ten to twenty rupees as taxation. Is that fair? We have not reduced that tax. The man who labours on the land is made to pay so much; and then the other people who pay for this Government are the drinkers, as I said, of toddy and arrack. Is it fair to allow this to continue? This Government have no alternative but to put the burden upon the traders and upon a different class of people. We do not hide it. We are ready to proclaim it from the house tops. And if traders say, 'We do not want you; we want another Government,' they may have it; we have no objection whatsoever. It is impossible that we can govern unless we do justice. It is not worth while that we should govern unless we do justice, and this elementary justice that we propose to do to the cultivator of the soil and the man who has been doped with toddy and arrack must be allowed to be done by all classes of people; and that cannot be said to be allowed if others refuse to be taxed at all. Let us be given a chance. Let us tax ourselves. I admit that we may probably have to bear a heavy burden. I admit, it may even be difficult to bear. Let us bear it. Let us bear this heavy taxation that we propose voluntarily to put upon ourselves and then let us point out the inequity of high salaries, the inequity of the enormous expenditure on officials. 5-4 p.m

"That is how we must build up our moral progress towards justice and freedom. It is impossible to reduce the expenditure on All-India services. The Government of India Act makes it impossible. It is impossible to reduce the expenditure on Provincial Services because the Government of India Act is protecting them. Everything is protected; everything is reserved. How shall we approach this problem? We cannot save these cultivators and those who are doped with toddy unless we reduce the expenditure of the Government. But we are not permitted to reduce the expenditure. Therefore the first step that we are going to take is that we are going to tax ourselves heavily in order to do bare justice to these people. This Government are going to say, 'We are going to levy this tax in spite of terrible opposition from the people.' We are prepared to become unpopular; we are prepared to be turned out. What is the moral logic? What is the moral corollary? You must reduce the expenditure on services. That is how I work for freedom. I have not made any secret of it. This is the only way in which we can non-violently approach the problem of violent coercion against this reform. This coercion of large expenditure and heavy taxation of the poorest cannot be approached by a non-violent Government in any other manner. We must first make sacrifices ourselves. When I say 'ourselves,' I am speaking of those people who are better off. We must reduce the expenditure of this Government. If already the taxation is very heavy, it is no use doping the poorest

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and trying to rob them of their money. It is no use making the food producer pay Rs. 10 out of the Rs. 100 that he may earn while we refuse to pay even one pie out of one rupee. That is all that I can say in defence of the plea which has been directly or indirectly put forward by the Opposition against the general policy of this Government in regard to taxation."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, after the exhaustive reply that has been given by the Hon. the Prime Minister, I do not think I can take much of the time of the House in giving replies to some other points raised by hon. Members. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan, asked whether the three districts have gone dry, whether the money that has been given up is only a loss of revenue to the Government or whether the loss in revenue in inaugurating Prohibition in these three districts has really been beneficial to the people of those districts. I may quote from the latest reports that have been received from the District Collectors concerned, from which he himself can see whether the policy adopted by the present Government has been beneficial to the people in those districts or not. The Salem Collector says:

'The general position can be considered satisfactory. On the preventive side, constant vigilance is still necessary in dealing with illicit distillation, particularly in the neighbourhood of Salem town. This is being exercised, and the intelligence service is good. Information regarding drug smuggling is also now more complete. It has to be remembered that the Police have now investigated nearly 2,000 cases and conducted even more than that number of unsuccessful raids and searches. The Police now know almost all the offenders and potential offenders and some 10,000 ex-heavy addicts and many other suspects are kept under regular watch. Police informers are numerous and well organized. Village officers, generally, are co-operating well and assistance continues to be rendered by non-official committee members and some Congressmen. Public opinion remains generally favourable. The Police have been constantly at work perfecting their technique in dealing with Prohibition crime, while the law-breakers being generally disorganized and largely illiterate have not, on their side, except to some extent, in respect of drug smuggling directed from outside the district been able to develop to any extent new methods to evade detection. Always provided public opinion remains favourable, and the Police continue to maintain their present standard of work, I see no reason why the position should not improve still further.'

"The Collector of Chittoor says:

'Crime under Prohibition Act shows a marked fall: 29 cases in the month under report as against 55 in the previous month. The figures for October, November and December 1938 were 126, 50 and 45 respectively. There have been no cases under "possession of illicitly distilled spirits" during the month and those under "illicit possession of illicit drug and miscellaneous" have gone down greatly. Two cases of illicit distillation were reported during the month as against three in the previous month. There is no reason to suppose that the fall in the number of cases are due to any lack of vigilance on the part of the Police and outside agencies. The demand for illicit arrack during Sivarathri and Kama Dahanam festivals was anticipated and with the increase in the number of arrack cases during the last month, special steps were taken to prevent malpractices. Only one case, the first since the introduction of Prohibition was reported during the month. The accused is reported to be an ex-tapper. Necessary action is being taken to check the spread of this sort of crime. The beneficient effect continues and Prohibition is working thoroughly successfully.'

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Sir, the following is an extract from the report of the Collector of Cuddapah:—

General economic condition.—The examination of family budgets by the *Tahsildars* and *Revenue Divisional Officers* shows a decided improvement in the condition of the ex-addicts many of whom have been able to discharge some of their previous debts. A perceptible change in their general health is also noticeable.

'The statistics on sale of food-stuffs and clothing in the shandies and selected villages in the districts show a marked rise in five shandies and fourteen villages selected for the purpose. A noteworthy feature of the month is the absence of unruliness and trouble during the Muharram festival in which both the Mussalmans and Hindus took part in this district. Want of intoxicants has no doubt been partly responsible for preventing friction.'

"Having said this, I would refer my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, to the reports that were recently submitted by Dr. Thomas of the Madras University and Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Nayudu who happens to be the Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University as to the working of the Prohibition in Salem district. Apart from that, I may remind hon. Members of the House that an experienced planter, an Englishman in Salem, has borne testimony to the fact that the labourers in estates have been able to clothe well and eat well. He also says that the labourers have greatly improved and even the middle classes in Salem district have testified to this fact. From this, I can tell my hon. Friends that Prohibition in these districts has been a thorough success.

"It has also been pointed out that the retrenchment in the Excise department has directly affected the subordinates and especially those who are in the lower rungs of the ladder. I can tell my hon. Friends that the Government have retrenched one Assistant Commissioner and a few inspectors in those districts where there is Prohibition. My hon. Friend, Mr. Hussain, and my frieud, Mr. Appadurai Pillai referred to the fact whether there has been real rural reconstruction in those areas where Prohibition has been established. I may tell them that real rural reconstruction work has been started in these districts by creating jaggery co-operative societies, promotion of thrift societies, supply of stud bulls to improve the live-stock, establishment of co-operative sale society for the sale of handloom products, marketing of metal-ware and bee-keeping. Guidance is given for horticultural and vegetable gardening, producing ragi and jonna malt and marketing them. And Government have spent money for creating rural uplift schools and also for giving amusements to people by installing radio sets and also by establishing women's cottage industries societies and by creating play-grounds. I may tell them that these things have taken effect in the various villages. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, said that he would give his hearty support to the policy of Prohibition and added that piecemeal Prohibition was not enough. And he advanced arguments that the several other districts in the Province also must be taken up for introducing Prohibition, and I am sure when the taxation Bills

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come up before this House that such Members who wish that Prohibition must go fast will give their heartfelt support to such measures.

" The hon. Member also referred to unemployment. The Hon. the Prime Minister has already replied that most of the people that have been retrenched in these districts have already been absorbed in other departments.

" Dr. Samuel said that most of the medicated wines were not allowed to be sold nor there was any market for them on account of the restrictions imposed by the Prohibition Act. He referred to the difficulties in marketing these wines. His intention presumably is that all medicated wines and similar preparations whose alcoholic content is less than 20 per cent of proof spirit should be exempted from the provisions of the Prohibition Act. I am sorry that Government cannot allow such a thing as this. Government have abandoned the proposal to exempt these preparations under *section 16 of the Act and decided to bring their sale under control by means of licences issued under section 18 of the Act. All these preparations*, whatever their alcoholic content, have been *placed on the same footing*. He pleaded for the amendment of the Alcoholic Act. Certainly that matter will receive my attention.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, referred to the unemployment of Sub-Inspectors. With a view to provide for probationers in the grade of Sub-Inspectors of Excise who were discharged on account of Prohibition, the Government have amended the Registration Subordinate Service Rules to the effect that the age-limit shall not apply to these men with a view to enable them to appear for selection to the posts of Reserved Sub-Registrars. In the matter of probationary revenue inspectors similar orders were issued to the effect that age-limit shall not apply in the case of discharged probationers in the grade of Sub-Inspectors of Excise who apply for selection to these posts. It has been decided that these concessions should be allowed to approved probationers also. Orders will issue shortly. Thirty-four directly recruited Excise Sub-Inspectors have been appointed as Sub-Inspectors of Police. Government are also considering proposals for the employment of men, discharged on account of Prohibition, by absorbing them in various departments of the Government, viz., the Police, the Co-operative, the Revenue, etc., and also by appointing them as commissioners of municipalities. Recently two Inspectors of Excise were appointed as Deputy Superintendents of Police. A pro-
p.m. bationary Inspector of Excise was also appointed as a probationary Deputy Collector. The whole question of the absorption of these men is under the consideration of the Government and a comprehensive scheme has been submitted for the orders of the Government by the department concerned.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, said that there has been *an increase in Excise revenue* although *Prohibition* has been

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introduced in several districts. It might have been the case in the first year of working Prohibition and the revenue all got from the districts where Prohibition has not been introduced. But to-day, Sir, I may tell him that the revenue from the auction sales has fallen by 17·8 per cent to the end of 1st March.

"I hope I have answered all the points raised by the hon. Members in the course of the debate and if there are any points which are left unanswered, I may assure hon. Members that those points will receive my consideration. I request my hon. Friends, Mr. Basheer Ahmed and Abdul Hameed Khan, to withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,91,900 under Demand III—Stamps*'."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I beg to move the cut motion which stands in my name, namely,—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,91,900 for Stamps by Rs. 100.*'

"My object in moving this cut motion is to draw the attention of the Government to the necessity for reducing court fees.

[At this stage the Deputy Speaker (Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi) occupied the Chair.]

"The Budget Memorandum gives us the figures with regard to the amounts realized by way of court-fees. From page 43 of the Budget Memorandum we find that under the head of Judicial—court-fees realized in stamps while the accounts for 1937–38 show a receipt of Rs. 103·82 lakhs the Revised Estimate for 1938–39 is put at only Rs. 90·79 lakhs. Thus there has been a fall in the receipt under court-fees. The causes for this fall are stated to be the reduction in the amount of litigation. And this reduction has been continuous since 1933–34. It is also stated further that this fall has been accentuated on account of the measures taken for the relief of agricultural indebtedness. It is also stated that this fall in receipts under court-fees is due to the tightness of the money market, economic depression and fall in land values and sales. It is further stated that the budget estimate for the coming year does not anticipate any improvement. This being the state of affairs with regard to the receipts under court-fees, I do not think that the increase that was made in the rate of court-fees in the year 1922, I think, by the Madras Court Fees Act, has brought any appreciable increase in the revenue from this source. On the other hand we have seen that there has been a steady fall. If the

object of the Government in increasing the rate of court-fees had been to bring in more revenue to the Government, I say that that object has not been achieved but defeated. There may be many causes for the fall in litigation, but we cannot say that the people of this Province have been in any way discouraged in the matter of litigation by the rise in court-fees. The fall is due to other causes. At the same time it may be argued that a higher court-fee will always discourage litigation. But, Madam, I must say that we will not be justified in holding that view, because as matters stand at present, the object of levying court-fees from the people is to give them justice in return and to give protection to their rights and privileges. The admission of the Government themselves is there that the people have been hard hit on account of the economic depression and tightness of the money market. That being so, I do not see why the same rate of court-fees should be maintained even at this moment.

" The increase in the rate of court-fees has hit the poor people very hard in two ways. In the first place, as I said a little while ago, the poor people cannot afford the luxury of litigation. Madam, as I have already stated, by increasing the court-fees the poor people should not be deprived of the opportunity of getting redress of their grievances in the law courts. But, Madam, we know from our own experience that poor people have sometimes to fight their cases and protect their rights as against very powerful and rich people. If the court-fee which they have to pay is very prohibitive on account of the higher rates, then at a time like this when there is widespread economic depression and indebtedness these poor people will be at the mercy of the richer and more powerful people. That is one reason why I urge that the rate of court-fees should be reduced. Rich and powerful people can afford to pay higher court-fees; they can afford the luxury of litigation. After all, Madam, though they are required to pay higher court-fees, ultimately the burden falls on the poor people. They are the people who have to pay the costs including the court-fee. Therefore I say that the increase in the rate of court-fees doubly hits the poor classes. Again, Madam, we have seen that in days gone by, not only during the time of the Mussalman kings but also during the time of the ancient Hindu kings, justice was made as cheap as possible so that it might be within the reach of all classes of subjects. Therefore, Madam, it is but right that the Government which is charged with the duty of protecting the rights and privileges and the life and property of the people should consider this question very seriously and it must do so especially at a time like this when the people are in a very miserable plight.

" Therefore, Madam, I would on this occasion urge on the Government that the time has come for making a substantial reduction in court-fees; the Government cannot plead that they will lose revenue, because the figures show that there has been a

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steady fall already. Again, Madam, the principle that is applicable to all businesses must be applied here also. That principle is smaller rates, larger sales, quicker returns and bigger profits. It should be applied in this case also. If the rate is reduced the poor people may be enabled to go to court without being at the mercy of their richer and more powerful neighbours and without being dictated to by their more powerful rivals. For this reason I would urge upon the attention of the Government the necessity for reducing court-fees. I must also impress upon the Government that this is the most opportune time to do so. With these words, Madam, I beg to move the token cut motion that stands in my name."

Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"I second it."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, there are three cut motions in my name, and they relate to three different subjects. The first is with reference to the policy of the Government in regard to the levy of stamp duty and court-fees. That is a subject which has been spoken of *ad nauseum*. The only regretful feature of it is that we have produced no result. In spite of age-long contentions and age-long remonstrances, the policy of the Government remains the same. What was a temporary measure of expediency in times of emergency has become a permanent tax on the poor people. The litigant was once assured when the tax was levied originally, that when financial conditions improved, it would be the duty of the Government, their first duty, to remove this tax. Madam, financial conditions did improve; 348 lakhs of the impost which was thought iniquitous then was gradually given up for the benefit of the local Government; where did that money disappear, people began to ask. All the $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores disappeared under various heads of account which were given of course to members of this House on repeated occasions; but that did not really affect or solve the question so far as the poor and impoverished litigant was concerned. 6-15 p.m.

"Madam, the costs of dispensation of justice, the costs of getting rights and claim established, remain to-day as they were before, and there has been no relief afforded. And as a result of discussions and as a matter of yielding to the arguments adduced by the Opposition, this Government were pleased on the last occasion to appoint an officer to examine the question of stamp and court-fees and to submit a report. No doubt, they appointed an able and efficient officer. I dare say that officer must have put his heart and soul into the task assigned to him; but we are yet to hear what has really happened. It is now one year since the appointment was made and I dare say the officer must have submitted his report. If that report has reached the Government pretty early, it is time that it is printed and published and circulated to the Members of this House. I do not know what lethargy has detained

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its publication. I do not know at what stage the matter still stands—whether the Government have considered it or whether they have merely made it lie in the Government Press for months together. It is just possible, but I cannot prophesy; it might have been sent to the Government Press months ago and it might have been lying there without being printed. And that cannot satisfy the poor peasant, to which class most of the litigants belong. The townsmen are not so litigious as the peasants who are driven from the Munsif's Court to the District Court and then to the High Court and to the Privy Council. It is the peasant who wants a decrease in the court-fees; it is he who wants a cheaper dispensation of justice. Madam, it is said that in no other country is justice so costly and so highly taxed as in this country; and it behoves the Government to do something speedily and expeditiously in this respect. Madam, I have always held the view that there ought to be immediate relief given to the man who is unjustly treated, whose rights have been denied by his own neighbours or by his own kith and kin; and that should be done without in the least affecting the Government's financial position. All that is pressed for is that the incidence of taxation so far as stamp and court-fees are concerned, should be reduced without at the same time, reducing the Government revenue therefrom.

"After all, Madam, Deputy Speaker, there must be a certain limit to the time taken in affording justice to the litigant by removing the unjust impost that was made, which ought not to remain there any longer. True, there is dearth of money; the Government have undertaken some large measures which will all go to the benefit of the people. The old sources of revenue have been retained; and apart from old sources being exploited, new sources also have been tapped; but still, that is not a matter for justifying the continuance of these enhanced rates of stamp and court-fees which have been in existence from the year 1922 onwards up to this day. I do not know the exact position with regard to the report which must have been submitted by now by the special officer whom the Government appointed last year. He must have of course made suggestions for enhancement of rates in certain respects where the fee already charged was low; and he must also have suggested reductions where the fee was iniquitously high. And all these things must be considered by the Government. There is also this further fact that this House should be taken into confidence by the Government before they come to any decision in the matter. I do hope, Madam, that the Hon. the Minister will have no objection to circulate the report for consideration by the members of this House who may be interested in it. It should be made available to us; it cannot be a secret document. This Government should do this much at least, with a view to justify the expectations of the Opposition. I therefore urge that the stamp fee should be reduced, that the court-fee should be reduced and particularly that the present time is all the more opportune for

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doing it, for the reason that the suffering on account of the seasonal conditions, on account of great depression and on account of various other uncontrolled and uncontrollable factors, is very great and the position of the poor litigant has gone from bad to worse in recent years; his position cannot therefore brook any delay and this reform ought to be ushered in as early as possible. I want the Government to do something in that direction.''

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—'' Madam, Deputy Speaker, in connexion with Stamp revenue Demand, I have to enter a kind of protest on behalf of the merchant classes, on account of the speech of the Hon. the Prime Minister to the effect that the merchant classes do not contribute anything appreciably to the revenues of this Province. It is true, he admits, that they are contributing to the Central Government, but he says they do not contribute anything appreciably to the Provincial Government. The Demand we are now discussing is one in respect of which it can well be said that the merchant classes are contributing something to the revenues of this Province. The stamp fees collected aggregates to over Rs. 2 crores, both judicial and non-judicial; there have been years in which the revenue collected from these two sources has even exceeded Rs. 2½ crores. If such a big sum as Rs. 2½ crores is contributed to the revenues of the Province, can it be said with any authority, Madam, that merchants are not contributing anything to the revenues of this Province? Really, if all the judicial revenue that is being collected is analysed, it will be found that most of it is contributed by the merchant classes. In explaining certain fall in revenue under this head, it has been said that because of depression, certain heads produced lower revenues than formerly. But what is this depression, Madam? It is after all a depression that is related to business; and if depression can bring about a reduction in the revenue from judicial stamps, that clearly shows that it is being contributed also by the merchant classes. So also is the case with non-judicial stamps and other similar proceeds, such as for instance, hundi papers, etc. Just as our Government are now following a new policy of borrowing money on what are called treasury bills under ways and means, the one way open to the ordinary merchant to raise money is to borrow money against hundis. We know that enormous sums of money are being spent on the purchase of hundis which run to several lakhs of rupees; every day instruments are being executed or negotiated or sold in open market with the result that these business transactions yield substantial revenue to the Government. I am not pointing out this merely because I want to emphasise the importance of the merchant classes; but I take strong objection to what has been said in this House, that so far as merchants are concerned, they are not contributing any appreciable amount to the revenues of this Province. I therefore support this cut motion and I want,

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in doing so, to bring it to the notice of this Government that they should calculate and weigh their words before they say that we are not contributing anything.

" I am prepared to point out, under the several heads we find in the Budget, that if anybody is contributing any substantial amount to the Provincial Government, it is the merchant class; it is they that are supporting the entire fabric of administration; it is an insult to say that we are not contributing. As a matter of fact, not only are we contributing to the Provincial Government, but we are also contributing to the Central Government and are even carrying the burden of a substantial portion of that administration, namely, the defence problem. So, it is not right for this Government to say that we are only contributing to the Central Government and not to this Government. It is something like a doctor who treats one portion of the system. If a specialist is treating the eye, it is no use pointing out to the specialist that he is only treating the eye and not the leg or any other part of the body. After all, the Provincial Government and the Central Government are inseparable factors, and it is insulting to be told that we are not contributing to the Provincial revenues. I certainly enter my emphatic protest against such a statement, and I would also point out the possible danger when such a kind of argument is advanced. It is quite open, in that case, for the Central Government also to say equally emphatically that the agriculturists never contribute anything to the Central Government. (Interruption by Sri N. S. Varadachariar.) The agriculturists do not pay any duty—I should like to correct Mr. Varadachariar. I know every item and every provision in the customs schedule, and I know every item there works for the benefit of the agriculturists. The Central Government are quite capable of understanding the importance of this matter and that is why they have exempted the agriculturists from paying any kind of customs or duty on instruments and other agricultural material, solely because they think that the agriculturists should be helped and supported. So, if you attack the other Government, it is quite open to the other Government to attack you, as though it is somebody else's baby whose leg you want to squeeze; in that case, it is open to the other Government to say, 'We will squeeze your baby's leg and feed ourselves.' This kind of antipathy created as between this Government and the Central Government will ultimately end in bitter hatred of one another and will not conduce to a comprehensive development and the well-being of this country."

6-30 p.m. * THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Madam, I did not expect so much heat to be introduced into this debate. Four hon. Members have criticised the policy of the Government. Those who are lawyer-members pointed out that litigation has fallen,

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the revenue has fallen and the poor litigant has not been able to come to the courts and obtain relief in the courts because of the heaviness of the stamp duty. It is also pointed out that the cause for the fall in litigation has not been the passing of the Debt Relief Act only, but also other causes. Taking these two points, I may make the position clear so far as the Government are concerned with regard to the revenue under the head of Stamp Duty.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.]

" Before dealing with it I may state at the very outset a few words about the report that has not been published yet. An officer was appointed to go into this question and submit his report. The report is still in print and it is not ready. The hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed said so much and in particular that perhaps it has been made to lie in the printing press. Very poor consolation either for the hon. Member or for those who are in charge of the administration. When the report is published, I have no doubt, it will not very much help the hon. Member or others who are interested in reducing the stamp duty. I have no doubt that the reduction of the stamp duty will not enable the poor litigants and the agriculturists particularly, to come to courts, file suits, engage the hon. lawyer-Members of this House or even other lawyers. Matters have gone very much beyond that. You may reduce the rate of court-fee stamps from Rs. 11–3–0 to the old scale of Rs. 7–8–0, I believe; it may be reduced even lower than that; it may be reduced to Rs. 5. But I can assure the hon. Members of this House that the financial condition of the country is such that even such a reduction would not enable the poor man to indulge in litigation in which they have been engaged since the establishment of these law courts in this country. This is only a provincial administration that is being run within the limited scope assigned to this Government under the new Constitution. The judicial system will have to undergo a complete change in this country, if the poorer class people who have been ruined on account of this litigation until now should be rescued and should be enabled to live upon the little which they can produce from the land or otherwise. It is not the desire of this Government to promote litigation any further or to put these unfortunate men to the heavy expenditure of Rs. 11–3–0 court-fee stamps. The poor man will rush to court if he could find men to lend money even with Rs. 11–3–0 court-fee stamps or even if it is perhaps double that. The lending power is gone and they are afraid of giving even ordinary relief for various reasons. Therefore it should not be mixed up with that.

" As the hon. Member, Mr. Hussain, pointed out it should be the policy of any Government to see that the litigant is not compelled to spend a lot of money to get relief in courts. Why should

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these unfortunate men be compelled by the establishment of these courts long time back to leave their villages, borrow money from others and litigate in distant courts? Have they been benefited? There has been a longstanding complaint about the burden of taxation. This is another kind of taxation which is not called taxation. It was not the intention of the founders of the judicial system which is now prevailing here to put the litigants and the poorer classes to such a heavy cost at all. When they established these courts they did it with the best of their intentions. It was their idea that justice should be given to the villagers at their doors and at the cheapest cost possible and in ordinary small matters almost without any stamp duty or other expense. It was with that object that this new judicial system had been established. The old judicial system was very simple. There was no necessity for the poor people to incur all this expenditure. There was no difficulty of securing justice, immediate justice, either in civil or criminal matters. It was the village panchayat system that was in force and that system functioned so magnificently that even those who introduced this judicial system put it in so many words. They recorded that this system had failed, not now, but more than hundred years ago, that this system should be dropped and should be replaced by the old panchayat system under which people had been getting justice without so much cost. It had been pointed out also, Sir, that after the establishment of these courts, it was only those who wanted to deceive the judges that were willing to have recourse to these new courts established and that those who were anxious to get justice were particular about referring the matter to their own village panchayats and getting redress immediately. The reason is clear. It is an important matter of commonsense that those who live in villages will know that if there is any dispute with regard to boundary or about any piece of land, it would be much better instead of referring the matter to a District Munsif, District Judge or a High Court Judge who will be sitting so far removed from the villages to hear evidence that would be produced on both sides and decide on that evidence—almost perjured evidence on both sides—to appeal to God to help them which side was right. If the dispute was taken up to the village panchayat court it would be perfectly honest in those days. Then there was no corruption or any trouble with regard to village panchayats or the village people even. So, in place of this system the judicial system was introduced. The courts were thus established, stamp duties were introduced and then shortly afterwards they found that the old system had failed and it was ruinous litigation so far as the people were concerned. I would just refer to what was recorded in those days about this judicial system which was then introduced for a particular purpose and about the manner in which it had failed and how they wanted to abolish it. I am reading this from pages 157 to 158 of the Appendices to the

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Estates Land Act Committee Report. It is stated there as follows:—

'The report submitted by Colonel Munro has rendered it necessary for the Governor in Council to take a particular survey of the whole contents of the Honourable Court's Despatch, and these are found divided into three separate branches, viz., the established System of Judicature, the present Police arrangements, and the administration of Criminal Justice.

The objections, which the Honourable Court have urged against the established System of Judicature, are the following:—

(1) that it is attended with an expense amounting to £348,262 per annum, which they are satisfied cannot be reduced without a revision of the whole system;

(2) that the object of introducing it into Bengal was to expedite the administration of justice, in which object it has failed and that the expedients for reducing the arrears of suits which are relied upon here have in Bengal been tried in vain;

(3) that it discourages fair suitors from seeking redress, and compels both litigants and witnesses (particularly the heads of villages) to undertake vexatious journeys, and that affrays take place from the disputes of the people being left unsettled;

(4) that natives are much better qualified than Europeans to sift and appreciate native testimony and that Europeans must obviously labour under great disadvantages from their imperfect knowledge of the native languages, and must therefore be liable to error, be dependent on their native servants and be dilatory in the despatch of business;

(5) that it is encumbered with useless and injurious forms, foreign to the habits of the people;

(6) that these forms have caused the necessity of employing vakils, whose usefulness has been greatly questioned;

(7) that it admits too freely the right of appeal; and

(8) that the institution fees and stamp duties, which are required to reduce the arrears of suits, must discourage the fair suitor.'

"The corruption bogey is not trotted out for the first time. 6–
Even then it was stated that corruption was there, not only in India but in every part of the world; corruption there was at some stage or other. They themselves suggest that such corruption could be stopped by proper superintendence and check and real justice could be given to the people. I have read this passage to show how those who established this judicial system looked upon it and how they felt it was a failure. If it had been a failure then and if they found it economically and financially useless in view of the considerable burdens that it imposed upon the people, if it is known how it had worked all these years, I find it impossible to believe how our lawyer friends like Messrs. Basheer Ahmed and Hussain feel that these poor people would be left without getting any justice if they are not allowed to go to these courts. I will only attribute that feeling to the fact that they had been used to this system not only during their life time but during the time of their forefathers dating to four or five generations and to nothing more. I have spent all my life from the lowest to the topmost courts of the land and I know the whole thing, and I can say without fear of contradiction that this judicial system that had been pronounced to have failed more than hundred years ago has been responsible for the ruin to a great extent of the villagers.

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It ought to have been scrapped long ago but it had continued all these years. The Hon. the Premier is very anxious that these things should be maintained because their scrapping will mean a disturbance of the present system of justice. It will be the duty of the Hon. the Premier and his Colleagues as also of all of you to see that it is suitably dealt with, if not to-day, to-morrow or the day after, so that real justice is given to the poor people without their being put to the necessity of spending so much money on account of stamp duty, pleaders' fees, touts' fees and all the rest of it.

" There were certain proposals at the time and it was stated that suits brought before karnams and patels ought to be relieved from fees and stamp duties. You may imagine that even for a small suit of no value the villager has to go to the small cause court which is not anywhere in the neighbourhood and he has to spend money by way of pleaders' fees and the like; and what is the amount that the poor man will be able to get even if he obtains the decree? These difficulties are not understood by the people used to the luxuries of the town. They think that the system of panchayats is defunct and that it is proposed to revive a dead system, a system which was defunct over a thousand years ago. These are enlightened men but they do not really understand the real position. It is within your reach even to-day. It is well to remember that even in Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar's Bill, he had a chapter therein for the establishment of panchayats for the control of irrigation. It is not as if this had been lost sight of; no one had lost sight of it when he had an opportunity of looking into the matter and giving the proper direction to it. I do not wish to take up the time of the House reading from the Report; but I would like to point out what is stated about the present system which was condemned long ago and also about the panchayat system.

' There can be no doubt that the trial by the panchayats . . .

I will invite the attention of hon. Members to this especially—

' . . . is as much the common law of India as the trial by jury is of England . . .

' If he has a good case, the natives always place their case before the panchayat while those that have a bad case seek the decision of the Collector or Judge because they know that it would be easier to deceive them.' "

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Then you must abolish all the courts."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" If I am left alone, I am for the complete abolition of the judicial system but the Hon. the Premier stands between me and the attainment of that aim for the reasons I have already stated."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Cabinet secrets must not be revealed."

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* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"There are no Cabinet secrets involved. I have already stated why it was that the Hon. Premier wanted the maintenance of the present judicial system. When I read these passages, I have been appealing to the heart of hon. Members of this House to judge and to come to the conclusion as to whether there is not anything wrong with the whole system which has to be rectified sooner or later."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"End it."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"So much criticism has been made on the question of the stamp duty; but I should observe that it is good to the litigant that the stamp duty is higher to-day because he will not borrow money and go to the courts with friends like Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed to defend him."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then you must increase it; make it double or treble."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I shall just close this point by saying one or two words about the different courts. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed must follow the speech of the Hon. Minister and should not be reading a book."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am reading this book in connexion with the next Demand. I have to prepare for a speech and not having the time to spare for it, I am doing it now."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should be listening to the speech of the Hon. Minister especially because he has spoken on the cut motion and the Hon. Minister is dealing with the points raised during the course of the discussion."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"All the same, Sir, I am following him; because I am reading the book, it does not follow that I am not following him."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No hon. Member can read a book or any other thing unless it be that it is for preparing a speech on this demand."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But this is connected with the debates on the Budget estimates that are now under consideration."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already stated that if at all it can be permitted, it is only for preparing a speech on the Demand under discussion. The Hon. Minister is replying to the debate and he is inviting the attention of the House to very important points. That being the case, no member can read books or newspapers or any other publication when the reply is being given. I expect hon. Members to listen very carefully to the replies of the Hon. Minister."

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* The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM:—" There has been a decrease in litigation and we have sustained a loss of twenty-four lakhs of rupees in our stamp duty revenue. It has been suggested that we should lower the stamp duty so that we may increase our revenue. I have been saying, Sir, that although it is not possible to take immediate steps the Government are endeavouring to do whatever is necessary to give relief to the villager by relieving him of the necessity of travelling long distances and of incurring all this expenditure. Hon. Members may not be able to measure the good that will come out of the proposed change and it is possible that they may look at it in the same manner in which they look at the question of Prohibition. A decision is given in the lowest court and then comes a series of appeals to the first court, to the second court and so on till it comes to the High Court. Then the revision comes and that would not ordinarily be admitted on manuscript or typed copies and printing will have to be done and printing charges no doubt will involve much expenditure. If the printing charges are not paid the case will go by default. It will be very plain to any one what an enormous waste of money all these will involve.

7 p.m. " We should expect from the High Court, Sir, to-day suggestions to help this Government with regard to the relief that may be given to the litigant. The hon. Chief Justice of the High Court of Madras once remarked, and this happened soon after he assumed office here, that he was dealing with a case which was fifteen years old. I have known of cases which were more than fifteen years old; I have known of cases in which both the successful and the defeated parties have been completely ruined even after the decision of the Privy Council had been given. It is high time now that hon. Members of this House should concentrate their attention upon the misery that has been brought about on account of this litigation. And all this is due to the never-ending rules of procedure and forms you see in the several enactments. Look at the forms in the Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes; look at the forms in the other enactments and codes that are now in force and are being applied to-day. It is these that are responsible for the ruin of the litigants. I hope, Sir, the Village Panchayats Bill will soon be ready, and hon. Members of this House will give it their best consideration.

" I am addressing on this matter with a purpose, because of the serious position in which the country stands to-day financially and economically. Just as taxation burden was referred to by many hon. Members, the case of litigation burden must be equally referred to, and perhaps with greater emphasis. The litigation burden should be reduced. There is no use saying this and that; there is no use entertaining prejudice about the working of panchayats; there is no use saying that this system has been tried and it has been found that people have been fighting after rang

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themselves on both sides; there is no use saying that this has been tried for the last 150 years and it has been found that people can't reconcile themselves to cultivate that corporate spirit once again. If we can't make the people cultivate that corporate spirit by having the village panchayat system it is no reason why it should not be tried again. It is no sound reason for not reviving it again. Look at other provinces. They have introduced the village panchayat system there already. Mahatma Gandhi who does not read about constitutions, all the same discovered the best system of constitution for our country, and has given us a constitution and it is being put into practice now; and the result of its working will be known soon. The whole thing was conceived by him, the whole thing was drafted by him and the whole thing is being put into operation. This has been done in other provinces, and similarly I hope it will be done in our Presidency and it will become law soon.

"The Hon. Prime Minister was not here when Mr. Ahmed Batcha entered his emphatic protest, and he went to the extent of explaining that the merchant class had been contributing two crores of rupees to the Government income under the head of judicial and non-judicial stamps. 'Who has been paying the money?' he asked. The unfortunate people have been paying the whole of it. Two lakhs and forty thousand rupees is paid on hundis. About seven lakhs is paid by way of adhesive revenue stamps. May I know what is the contribution made by merchants on this score? What is the contribution that is made by trade that is being carried on by them? I do not think the merchants are having their due share in the trade. They are suffering in their own way, and they should fight to secure certain privileges in the same way in which they have been secured in Britain and other countries. They should not raise a hue and cry the moment any new tax is proposed by saying 'we have been paying already three lakhs, seven lakhs and nine lakhs; that is enough and you should not ask us to pay anything further.' The fundamental principle of any democratic government is this: if those who have money are not ready to contribute to the administration of the Government from out of their earnings then there can be no democracy. Those people who are conscious enough of the duty that lies upon their head will say to the Government, 'we will bear a share of the burden ourselves, even though you have not asked us.' You must say that. What did the wealthy class of England do when England got into trouble and when England was fighting with its back to the wall? They came forward and said, 'we will pay, levy income-tax duties, and we are willing to share the burden to enable the Government to carry on its work.' A promise was made that it will be relieved in two years. But it could not be done. There must be that willingness on the part of merchants to pay; they must take an intelligent view

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of the position. There is no use of working one-self into a rage and entering protest against the Hon. Prime Minister's action. It is only just now an attempt is being made to tax trade. It is new, I know it well; and it is natural that it should be felt keenly. A departure from the usual state of things has been made and it is being made, and all hon. Members here as well as merchants outside will soon reconcile themselves to the justice of the measures that are being introduced by this Government in the matter of taxation. If there should be any difficulty, this people's government will not hesitate to rectify those mistakes and errors, as experience teaches.

"About the Debt Relief Act much has been said. It has minimized litigation, and I have heard this in various places, not merely from common people but from those officers who are judges. They have said in unmistakable language that the Debt Relief Act was responsible for the decrease in litigation. That the Debt Relief Act is responsible for the decrease in litigation none has disputed so far, and no one has condemned or criticized that Act on this score. If such relief could be given to the poor men by the passing of this measure, hon. Members of this House may imagine how much more relief could be given, how much substantial relief could be given to these men by passing other measures, which would make them secure justice at their very doors instead of in distant places. So there is no point in that. Sir, I have taken a long time by way of reply. I oppose the cut motion, and I request the hon. Member who has moved the cut motion to withdraw it."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I beg leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR :—"What a ready response!"

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made. made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 884 asked by Sri A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 16th March 1939, page 110 supra.]

Statement showing the imports and exports in the several ports in the Tanjore district for six years from 1928–29 *to* 1933–34.

—		Negapatam (including Nagore).		Adirampatnam (including Muttupet).		Ammapatnam (including Kattumavadi and Krishnajipatnam).		Tranquebar.		Tirumulavasal.		Topputurai (including Point Callimere).		Velanganni.	
		Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
		(1)		(2)		(		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)	
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1928–29	..	48,01,236	1,75,80,986	1,65,364	13,12,619	1,04,031	2,762	59,295	2,471	15,245	1,57,822	5,741	1,47,816	1,964	44,186
1929–30	..	45,82,631	2,25,75,304	39,190	10,50,236	13,188	15,117	85,620	1,859	14,228	2,36,293	1,519	1,15,854	3,804	55,511
1930–31	..	35,75,166	1,04,60,716	56,167	8,27,859	10,403	59,489	78,285	2,350	15,465	6,71,491	3,768	61,892	1,829	29,136
1931–32	..	35,19,592	84,86,535	68,666	6,20,463	15,990	10,953	65,720	2,800	14,483	4,81,164	1,860	9,774	169	4,044
1932–33	..	34,05,478	72,18,597	51,657	9,05,399	5,871	10,058	96,068	220	2,097	6,77,480	2,094	2,510	839	2,800
1933–34	..	29,53,239	72,89,507	56,621	8,89,170	2,204	2,414	26,287	200	7,404	4,58,712	1,480	1,965	286	2,910

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 890 asked by Sri P. R. K. Sarma at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 16th March 1939, page 113 supra.]

Monthly report of the Provincial Marketing Officer for December 1938.

* * * *

4. At Tanjore, I attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tanjore Central Co-operative Marketing Society, Limited, in company with the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Tanjore, Sri V. Nadimuthu Pillai, M.L.A., presided.

5. At the meeting, I explained the position of rice marketing in Tanjore district in detail. Tanjore and South Arcot districts export annually from 60,000 to 80,000 tons of mainly sirumani rice to Ceylon, and it is desirable that a system be introduced by which this rice is exported in specified and standardized grades to attract the purchasers as well as steady the demand. Sirumani rice can be easily graded and exported with advantage. Regarding the other varieties, the Tanjore district has got a longstanding trade with the Coimbatore, Salem, Trichinopoly and Madura districts in medium and coarse sambas The trade is, however, in the hands of commission mundies, and there are found certain malpractices by way of adulteration of types at the consuming ends. Another peculiarity is that bulk of the trade in Tanjore district is by way of paddy which is transported all the way and hulled at the importing end, the quantity being so high as 3,000,000 railway maunds from Tanjore district alone. It was pointed out that this is a handicap in the marketing of rice proper. Growers, small and large, were therefore urged to form marketing associations and open up their own agencies and depots in the main centres as Pudukottai, Trichinopoly, Erode, etc. When the bulk of the paddy is sold away early as often happens, the grower is unable to take advantage of the rise in prices later in the season. Annually, about, 3,000,000 maunds are exported as paddy from the Tanjore district, and even if half the quantity goes as rice instead of paddy, there will be a saving of freight on five lakhs of maunds, a significant figure. Further, as the market for rice is now in the consuming end, the producing district loses the advantage of direct marketing, and all varieties, good and bad, are entirely in the hands of middlemen at the importing ends. As such, the full benefits of the superior varieties grown are not realized. Rices from the Godavari delta have to move so far off as 600 miles to meet deficit areas, and it is quite possible that Tanjore district can undertake that supply. There is thus room for improvement

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by a planned distribution of supplies also. At present, the Tanjore grower is estimated to get 60 to 68 per cent only of the consumer's price in internal markets, as Trichinopoly, and only 59 per cent of the consumer's price in the case of export to Ceylon. The railway freight accounts from 6 to 9 per cent in these cases, milling charges from 5 to 6 per cent and the rest is mainly devoted to filling the profits of intermediaries. There is, therefore, sufficient scope to increase the net return to the grower by large scale organizations of producers. I exhorted those present to make a start without delay by opening two sale depots, one at Pudukottai and the other at Erode. The Deputy Registrar also emphasized that the society should begin work in right earnest.

6. Further discussion took place, and finally the Directors resolved as follows:—

(i) To open in the first instance sale depots at Pudukottai and Erode for sale of paddy.

(ii) To admit big mirasidars of experience in paddy marketing, amending the by-law suitably.

(iii) To approach the Government—

(a) for the free services of a Co-operative Inspector or an Agricultural Demonstrator, preferably the latter;

(b) to reduce railway freights and opening of minor ports; and

(c) to secure contracts for supply of rice or paddy to Government hospitals and institutions.

(iv) To convene a conference of producers and land holders in the Needamangalam area in April-May 1939, to consider marketing of Tanjore paddy on a very large and organized scale.

(v) To increase the home market for paddy by propaganda and planned distribution of supplies and other means.

* * * *

10. During the Christmas week, I attended, by invitation, the opening function of the District Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Trichinopoly, by the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, and on that occasion I delivered an address on Agricultural Marketing in the Madras Presidency in general and with particular reference to the marketing problems of Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts. The Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Minister for Public Health, was also present on the occasion. The next day I discussed with the members individually all possible lines of improvement in the marketing of important commodities in the Cauvery delta such as rice, plantains, betel-leaf, etc. Most of the members expressed a

desire that in view of the decline in the export trade of rice to Ceylon since 1934, and the reported possibilities of finding increased market for coarse rices in the plantation colonies in Ceylon, I should visit Ceylon and obtain first-hand information about demand, supply, etc., of the wholesale rice market in Ceylon. They further said that some ten years ago Rao Bahadur N. S. Kulandaisami Pillai was deputed to Ceylon and as a result there was some reduction in railway freight but that the reduction then given was not of advantage now due to the present-day conditions of the Ceylon market which had considerably changed due to causes like competition from other countries, change of quality, demand, etc.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 17th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Tour of one of the Ministers in a special railway saloon.

* 895 *Q.*—SRI R. M. PALAT: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one of the Ministers travelled through Tiruvarur by train on or about 24th October;

(*b*) whether the Minister travelled by special saloon; and

(*c*) if so, who the Minister was that did so, and whether this indicates that the Ministry has given up the policy of travelling in the second class?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) & (*b*) No Minister travelled by special saloon on the occasion stated or at any other time.

" (*c*) Does not arise."

Consultation of the Government of India with the Madras Government regarding the inauguration of Federation.

* 896 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government of India ever consulted the Madras Government regarding the inauguration of the proposed Federation under the Government of India Act, 1935; and

(*b*) if so, what it was?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

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Proposal for the appointment of a non-official Indian to succeed the present Civilian Agent in Burma.

* 897 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the term of office of the I.C.S. officer as Agent in Burma ends sometime in March next; and

(*b*) whether the Government of Madras will inform the Central Government to appoint a non-official Indian with wider powers to take his place?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"(*a*) The Government have no definite information but round about the time indicated it is likely the officer will be relieved.

"(*b*) Due weight will be given to this suggestion."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that in the first instance the Central Government appointed the Burma agent who was an Indian I.C.S. Officer and this Government suggested to the Central Government an European officer in his place?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is not a fact, Sir. But I may say, in the first instance a junior officer was appointed and this Government suggested, on account of the riots, that a much more senior officer should be appointed."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Are the Government aware that there was a senior Indian member of the I.C.S. who would have taken his place?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I may say once for all, Sir, that there was no question of European or Indian involved. It was a question of seniority, and the best man and the most senior man available who was suitable was appointed. This talk about racial distinction in this connexion has been going on without any basis whatsoever."

Transfer of Sub-Registrars from the Registration department to the Revenue and other departments.

* 898 *Q.*—SRI V. J. SAMU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there have been transfers of Sub-Registrars from the Madras Registration Subordinate Service to the Revenue or other departments of Government;

(*b*) if so, how many such transfers have been effected and to what departments, during the last five years; and

(*c*) whether it is the intention of the Government to give up this policy?

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*)—

	NO.
Department to which transferred—Revenue department (Nellore district)	1
Appointed as Commissioners of municipalities	6

" (*c*) No policy is involved in this matter."

Pay of probationers in the Madras Registration Subordinate Service after completion of their probation.

* 899 *Q.*—SRI V. J. SAMU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that probationers in services other than the Madras Registration Subordinate Service, are given the minimum pay in the time-scale, after completion of their probation;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that such a rule does not hold good in the case of the probationers in the Madras Registration Subordinate Service, who are paid the minimum in the time-scale only from the date of their confirmation and not from the date of the completion of their probation; and

(*c*) if so, what the reasons are for such a differentiation?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (*a*) Under the general rules for the subordinate services a person who has completed his probation in a service draws the pay admissible to a permanent member of the service. The pay may be either the minimum in the time-scale or higher than that minimum according to the pay drawn during probation. This rule applies also to probationers in the category of Sub-Registrars in the Madras Registration Subordinate Service.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member presumably has in mind Reserve Sub-Registrars who are promoted as Sub-Registrars. A Reserve Sub-Registrar belongs to a distinct category (category 2) in the Registration Subordinate Service. He is not required to be on probation in the higher category of that service, viz., Sub-Registrars. The question of the pay to be allowed on completion of probation in the latter category does not arise in his case. Reserve Sub-Registrars are confirmed as Sub-Registrars in accordance with seniority in the vacancies reserved for them and on such confirmation draw the minimum pay in the time-scale. A Reserve Sub-Registrar may, however, at any time be requested to discharge the duties of a Sub-Registrar according to administrative convenience and irrespective of seniority. He is then paid a sum of Rs. 10 in addition to his pay as Reserve Sub-Registrar."

Proposal to exempt the owners of agricultural lands situated within municipal limits from payment of land revenue to Government.

* 900 Q.—SRI V. J. SAMU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that land tax is collected by the Revenue authorities, for agricultural lands, situated within municipal limits, though almost an equal amount of tax for the same is levied by the municipality also;

(b) what the amount of revenue derived by Government from the assessment of such lands is; and

(c) in view of the fact that the owner of an agricultural land which lies within a municipality is required to pay a double tax for the same land, one to Government and the other to the respective municipality, whether the Government will be pleased to exempt the owners of such lands from paying land revenue to Government?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (a) Agricultural land situated within municipal limits is liable to assessment as any other agricultural land. The Government have no information as to whether the amount of tax levied by the municipality on agricultural land is almost equal to the assessment levied by the Government.

" (b) The information is not available.

" (c) The Government do not consider that the liability to tax by a municipality or local body is a sound reason for exemption from the liability to ordinary land revenue."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether in view of the fact that in the case of agricultural lands within a municipality they have to pay a number of taxes, the Government will consider the desirability of exempting them from this land tax? "

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" The question has arisen in a number of municipalities and the Government are considering the question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, under what statute these municipal taxes are levied? Is it under the General Properties Act or anything else? "

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" I think it is a tax known as the 'land tax'."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is there a tax as land tax in the municipalities, Sir? "

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The municipality is unfortunately given the power under the Act to tax a property within its limits."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—"Why unfortunately, Sir?"

Opening of a sub-treasury at Devakottah.

*901 Q.—SRI MUTHU KR. AR. KR. ARUNACHALAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there are in Devakottah (Ramnad district) a Sub-Court, a District Munsif's Court, a Municipal Office and an Income-tax Office, but that there is no Government sub-treasury in the town;

(b) whether the Government are aware that people are put to much trouble and inconvenience on account of the sub-treasuries at Tiruppattur and Tiruvadanai being each 20 miles distant from Devakottah;

(c) whether representations have been made to the Government requesting them to open a sub-treasury at Devakottah; and

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps in the matter and if so, what?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—"(a) & (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(b) The Government realize that the location of a sub-treasury at Devakottah should be a great convenience to the people there.

"(d) The proposal to locate a treasury at Devakottah has been carefully considered but for financial reasons the Government are unable to give effect to it at present."

Statistics regarding contributions from ryots for repairing irrigation sources in the North Arcot district.

*902 Q.—SRI B T. SESHADRIACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases in which contributions were levied from ryots for repairing irrigation sources in the district of North Arcot and the amount of such contributions ever since the Board of Revenue issued an order for such levy;

(b) the number of cases in which the Collector has waived the levy in toto or partially of such contributions and the amount thus waived; and

(c) the number of cases in which the sanction for execution of such repairs was withheld for want of contributions from the ryots in the said district?

SRI T. VISWANATHAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam:—" (a), (b) & (c) The Government have called for a report."

Area irrigated by the Cauvery-Mettur Project in 1937–38.

* 903 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any increase in the area irrigated in 1937–38 under the Cauvery-Mettur Project as compared with that for the previous year?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" The answer is in the affirmative."

Re-investigation of the Seethapalli Reservoir Project.

* 904 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for abandoning the Seethapalli reservoir project; and

(b) whether it will be investigated again?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) The scheme was abandoned on account of its prohibitive cost.

" (b) The answer is in the negative."

Report of the Chief Engineer on the complaints about the system of remodelling in the Eastern division of the Kistna delta.

* 905 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government called for a report from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, regarding the complaints about the system of remodelling in the Eastern division of the Kistna delta;

(b) if so, whether the same has been received; and

(c) what that report is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) & (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (c) The report is to the effect that remodelling of channels is necessary in the interest of economic development of the country, expansion of irrigation, prevention of wastage and equitable distribution of water to the lands."

List of members of the District Road Traffic Board, Malabar.

* 906 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a District Road Traffic Board has been constituted for Malabar; and

(*b*) who the members of this Board are?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) The members of the Road Traffic Board are the District Magistrate, the President of the District Board, the District Superintendent of Police and Sri A. Karunakara Menon, M.L.A."

SRI E. KANNAN:—"In so far as the opinions and the representations of the non-official members on this Board are in no way accepted by the official block in the Board, and consequently the pressure of the non-official block is of no avail will the Government consider the desirability of abolishing this Traffic Board altogether?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a supplementary question; it is a speech that is being made."

Proposal for framing model rules for the District Road Traffic Boards.

* 907 *Q.*—SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether non-official members of the District Road Traffic Boards are allowed the privilege of sending resolutions and proposals for the consideration of the Board;

(*b*) whether all the Road Traffic Boards in this Province have framed rules for the conduct of their business in accordance with rule 250 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules; and

(*c*) if not, whether the Government will consider the desirability of framing model rules for the conduct of the business of District Road Traffic Boards?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government have no information with regard to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of the question; with regard to clause (*c*), the Government have not so far found it necessary to consider the question."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"Will the Government call for the information, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not sure what information the hon. Member exactly wants."

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SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" The answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*)."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I do not think there is any necessity for me to call for the information."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" May I know, Sir, the purpose for which they have been constituted? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The purposes are given in the Motor Vehicles Act. If the hon. Member will peruse it he will find it out for himself."

Utilizing the services of educated convicts as teachers in jail schools.

* 908 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether convicts sufficiently educated are put to teaching work in jail schools; and

(*b*) if not, why not?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The question does not arise."

Reduction of the cost of liquor in Bhadrachalam division, East Godavari.

* 909 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the cost of liquor was reduced from As. 1–6 a dram to 6 pies in Bhadrachalam division in East Godavari;

(*b*) whether the same is done anywhere else;

(*c*) if so, where;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that in these areas a great impetus is given to the drink habit of the people for the above reason; and

(*e*) if so, whether the Government will increase the rat and put down the consumption?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) A maximum retail selling price of 6 pies per dram has been fixed for ippa arrack sold in a portion of the Parvatipur taluk and in the Ichapur, Tekkali and Chicacole taluks of the Vizagapatam district.

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"(d) & (e) The fixation of a low maximum selling price is likely to increase the consumption of licit arrack but experience has shown that a higher selling price does not reduce the total consumption of arrack but diverts consumption from licit to illicit liquor."

Quantity and value of tea and coffee produced in this Province last year.

* 910 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the quantities of tea and coffee produced in this Province last year; and

(b) the value of the same?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a) Approximately 37,635,000 lb. of tea in 1938 and 8,868,000 lb. of coffee during the fasli year 1937–38.

"(b) Rs. 1,88,17,500 for tea and Rs. 23,75,400 for coffee."

Areas in the reserved forests fit for the cultivation of coffee and tea.

* 911 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any areas in the reserved forests fit for cultivation of coffee or tea; and

(b) if so, where they are situated and what the extents are?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(b) They are thousands of acres situated in the forests of the West Coast and of Tinnevelly, Madura, Coimbatore, Salem and North Arcot."

Working of the Sri Ramakrishna Sugar Mills, Kirlampudi.

* 912 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the business of Sri Ramakrishna Sugar Mills, Kirlampudi, last ended in gain or loss; and

(b) if the latter, what the reasons therefor are?

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) The working of the factory during the year ending 31st October 1938 resulted in a loss of Rs. 5,018-11-11.

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"(b) The loss is due to the inadequacy of the margin of difference between the purchase price of the cane and the selling price of sugar, the heavy expenditure on the transport of materials from and to the factory and the high interest charges."

Appointment of Muslim teachers in the Labour schools in Malabar.

* 913 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR P. M. ATTAKOYA THANGAL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) how many Mappilla teachers had been appointed in schools maintained by the Government Labour department in Malabar;

(b) what the total strength of teachers in Labour schools in the district is;

(c) if no Mappillas had been appointed as teachers, what the reason for it is;

(d) whether Nayars and others had been appointed as teachers in such schools; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the desirability of appointing Muslims also as teachers in these schools?

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) Two.

"(b) 129.

"(c) Does not arise.

"(d) Yes.

"(e) Under the existing rules preference should be given to candidates belonging to scheduled classes. If qualified candidates belonging to the scheduled classes are not available the claims of Muslims also are considered in making appointment of labour school teachers."

SRI E. KANNAN:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they will bear in mind the implication of this question along with the standing order that only Mappillas should be appointed as teachers in labour schools in Malabar?"

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"For labour schools scheduled class teachers will be preferred and if only they are not available the claims of Mappilla Muslims will be considered. That is the rule."

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Statistics regarding carpets exported from this Province.

* 914 Q.—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity and value of the carpets sent to other places from this Province; and

(b) if the information is not available, whether the same will be called for?

Sri A. KALESWARA RAO (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) & (b) 1,885,247 lb. of woollen carpets and rugs worth Rs. 11,87,610 were exported by sea during 1937–38 to foreign countries. 38,592 lb. of woollen carpets and 373,222 lb. of cumblies were exported by rail to other provinces during 1936–37. Particulars regarding export of other kinds of carpets are not available."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939–40—*cont.*

DEMAND IV—FOREST.

* The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,56,800 under Demand IV—Forest.*'

" Sir, I find that several hon. Members have given notice of token cut motions to discuss the Forest policy of the present Government. I must say, Sir, at the outset that though the Government were engaged in many important affairs, the Forest department also has received equal attention, and great efforts have been made to effect retrenchment and also to find ways and means of improving the revenue of the State.

" The allotment of Rs. 31,56,800 represents the total amount of voted expenditure required for the Forest department during the year 1939–40. This is made up of the following: Direction, 3-15
Rs. 61,700; Conservancy and works, Rs. 13,13,500; Establishment, p.m.
Rs. 17,68,000 and Charges in England, Rs. 13,600.

" The important points on which some of the members may like to have information as regards the Forest policy are, first reservation. The Forest Act was passed in 1882 and under the provisions of the Act several areas have been constituted as what are known as reserved forests. The objects of this reservation were the conservation of the forest property and its working, not only to meet proper demands for timber, fuel and grazing but also to

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protect the soil from erosion by prolonged heat and rains and to regulate the flow of water in the rivers. Experts consider that about 20 per cent of a country's total area should be reserved as forest. I would like to remind the House, Sir, of the percentage of forests obtaining in the other provinces. Burma enjoys 67 per cent, Assam 38 per cent, Central Provinces 20 per cent, Bengal 14 per cent, Bombay 12 per cent, United Provinces 5 per cent and Madras 12 per cent. It will thus be seen that Madras has a smaller area than what expert opinion considers there should be. There is thus no over-reservation of forests, for there is a great clamour for disreservation of forests for purposes of cultivation. Recently, Sir, the Government have appointed a special officer for the investigation of the problem of grazing and also of the problem of erosion. Originally all the forests in the Presidency were under the control of the Forest department. The Forest Committee of 1912 recommended that the activities of the Forest department which consists of expert officers should be confined to the more important forests and that the forests adjoining villages, which were mainly intended to cater to the local needs of the villagers should be transferred to the control of forest panchayats. The proposal was accepted by Government and now about 3,272 square miles of forests are under the management of what are known as the forest panchayats, and these are controlled by the Collectors of the districts and the Board of Revenue. Though the forests retained under the control of the Forest department are important forests the preservation of which is in the interests of everybody, disreservations are made mainly for the following reasons: firstly, undue proximity to villages; secondly, assignment for cultivation when no other land is available and thirdly for construction of roads. Sir, I made several local inspections in connexion with applications for the disreservation of forest lands and granted relief wherever this could be done without injury to forest interests. I may instance here the following: 639 acres assigned in the Dalli forest in Coimbatore district to Scheduled Castes and landless people; 119 acres assigned in Thaiyur forest in the Chingleput district, Kattu forest, 232 acres, Kattu Gudalur forest, 108 acres; Koilpidagai forest, 300 acres; in Salem and North Arcot districts, Nandi banda forest, 341 acres for assignment to toddy-tappers who lost their means of livelihood as a result of the introduction of Prohibition. The Government, Sir, have decided that in future, assignment of land should not be made within a margin of two or three chains from the boundaries of reserved forests.

"The next point of policy is grazing. Although the unreserves and panchayat forests ought to meet the demand for grazing, a major portion of the departmental forests are also thrown open to grazing. This grazing is however permitted only on payment of a small fee and after taking out a permit. Generally a forest range is the unit of grazing, but cattle are permitted

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to graze in an entire division if a division—wide permit is taken on payment of the highest rate of fee prevailing in the division. The grazing fee in departmental forests was reduced by 50 per cent with effect from the 1st of April 1938 and in the case of panchayat forests the question of reduction of fee so as not to exceed the rates in the adjoining departmental forests is being considered when the agreements with the panchayats come up for renewal. The total loss to the Government on account of reduction of grazing fees will be about Rs. 4 lakhs. Reduction of rates is bound to attract a larger number of cattle to share the limited amount of pasture available, and this circumstance has brought into prominence several questions of importance such as the desirability of restricting the area of grazing in each permit, the number of cattle to be admitted to each area and of improving the amount of grazing and other facilities available by growing better and more grass, by providing facilities for water for cattle and by introduction of the rotational system of grazing. The issues involved are so important and complex that the Government have appointed a special officer to investigate into and report on these points. The rotational system of grazing has actually been introduced in Salem North division and its introduction in other places is under consideration. It has been explained in the Press Communiqué, dated 26th January 1938, that no fee is charged for cutting and removal of grass from departmental forests in head-loads for bona fide domestic use except in areas which have been closed for sylvicultural or other special reasons, and that cutting and removal of grass in cartloads is also permitted in a few divisions subject to the payment of the fee prescribed. It has, however, been always recognized that the pasture available in reserved forests is not adequate to meet the needs of even a tenth of the cattle population in the Province. It was suggested that a possible method of augmenting the quantity available in the country would be by conserving and improving what little is available in waste land outside the reserved forests. A special Fodder and Grazing Committee has been appointed to reclassify these lands and select areas fit for production of fodder or for management as grazing grounds.

"One important point that used to be taken up in this House is about dead wood. The removal of dead wood from reserved forests is prohibited as a rule except in certain localities. In view of the complaints that reached Government that poor people find it difficult to obtain fuel at prices they could afford to pay, orders have been issued directing the supply of such wood in a few areas on payment of a nominal fee of 6 pies per headload. The extension of concession to new centres will be considered in due course. Proposals are under consideration for the institution of a tree-planting day in all districts every year to encourage the people to plant trees so that these trees might in course of time serve

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the agricultural and domestic needs of the people and to that extent relieve the pressure on reserved forests. One or two villages near Kotagiri have actually started village fuel forests. Contractors of fuel coupes are required to maintain agricultural implements for sale to the public at fixed and reasonable rates. In Kollegal special coupes have been opened to meet the demand for agricultural implements. Agricultural implements, building materials and spokes and felloes were extracted departmentally in Kurnool East and were sold both in auction and at fixed retail rates for small quantities. In Coimbatore South also, agricultural implements, fuel and small timber, spokes and felloes, brake poles and teak poles were sold to meet local requirements.

"Now, coming to green leaf manure for which the agriculturists have been making a demand, removal of manure leaf is allowed in divisions in which no other source of manure is available. The present Government have ordered that fuel coupes should be opened for the sale of permits for removing headloads of green leaf manure, three months prior to the coupes being felled by contractors. The removal of leaves on a large scale cannot have other than a deleterious effect, and if carried too far, will result in the destruction of forests. However, to meet pressing demands, manure leaf series have been prescribed in several work-plans. The reduction of fees for the removal of green leaf manure is under consideration. The complaints regarding green leaf and dead wood were more insistent from South Kanara and the Government found it necessary to explain in detail in a Press Communiqué, dated 30th August 1938, the concessions actually allowed in that district. With a view to augmenting the supplies of manure the Government directed that permission should be granted for the removal of silt from tank-beds and dung from cattle-pens in reserved forests on payment of a nominal fee of 2 annas and 4 annas respectively per cartload.

"The other question that crops up is about the minor forest produce. Emphasis has been laid in the instructions issued to the head of the department on the need for securing as much revenue as possible from the minor forest produce by undertaking departmental collection wherever necessary or possible, by the increased manufacture of lac products, by an increased production of cheap fruits like tamarind, jambu or neradi and wood apple, by planting myrabolams and avaram, by supplying ascu treated poles for the use of the Electricity department and by leasing out suitable areas for arecanut and cardamom plantations or the departmental plantation of areca and cardamom. The Chief Conservator of Forests has also been asked to submit a report on the possibility of producing three-plywood, three-ply boxes, picture frames and wooden sleepers and plugs. The possibility of further expansion of cinnamon cultivation in the forests has been

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taken up for examination. Instructions have been issued for starting the plantations of avaram in suitable areas in reserved forests for supply to tanners and an experimental plantation of wattle in the Nilgiris and the Palni hills.

" The other point which has engaged the attention of Government is retrenchment. The Government have abolished two Conservators' charges and six posts in the Madras Forest Service and proposals have been transmitted to the Secretary of State for the abolition of fifteen posts in the Indian Forest Service. The Forest College has been ordered to be closed with effect from the first of July 1939 and the future recruits to the Forest Rangers cadre directed to be trained at the Forest College at Dehra Dun. The abolition of two more divisions, Kurnool South and Salem Central, has been agreed to by the Government and orders will issue shortly.

" For the past six years the Forest department has shown an 3-
annual surplus of about Rs. 4 lakhs on a total average annual p.m.
expenditure of about Rs. 40 lakhs. The total revenue of the Forest department takes into account the revenue from unreserves (from timber, firewood and charcoal, bamboo and other minor produce) administered by the Revenue department. This revenue amounts to more than Rs. 4 lakhs. The surplus of the Forest department is not much, but in judging the financial results, the following considerations may be borne in mind:—

(1) With sound management for sustained yield forestry is a safe investment from which sensational returns in cash are not to be expected.

(2) A large proportion of the Madras forests, though essential for meeting local demands and for conserving water supplies, is not directly remunerative.

(3) The department receives no credit for the value of produce given away as concessions and free grants, e.g., free grazing and timber and bamboos to rebuild burnt house. The revenue foregone in this way is more than a lakh of rupees.

(4) The department's balance sheet leaves quite out of account the incalculable indirect benefits which the forests confer. The control of floods and the conservation of water on which huge areas of wet cultivation and the livelihood of countless people depend, have no place in it.

" Sir, the last Administration Report that has been placed in the hands of the hon. Members will tell exactly on what lines the present Government are trying to improve the forest wealth of our Province. One point, Sir, that I have to mention in this connexion is this. It has been observed in the *Hindu* of the 14th March 1939 that it is a deplorable fact that in spite of the

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existence of valuable pieces of timber superior to European timber in many of our forests, we have to go in for foreign timber. As far as our Province is concerned, it has been possible during the year under review to find out that some of the evergreen and flourishing forests have been found in the region of Nilambur valley. An important bridge has been constructed which will give facility for the removal of this timber provided our people go in for our Indian timber. Sir, I think I have explained in detail the present policy of the Government and if any hon. Member wishes to have more information on other points that I have not touched, I shall reply to them in due course. With these words I move my Demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—" A very important statement of policy has been made by the Hon. Minister containing statistics, etc. It is desirable hereafter that, when such statements of policy are made, they are printed and circulated to hon. Members of the House so that they may be well posted up for the discussion of Demands."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I beg to move the cut motion that stands in my name, viz.—

'*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 31,56,800 *for Forest by Rs.* 100 (to criticize the policy of the Government).'

" Sir, I have just now heard from the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture details regarding the administration of the department. Sir, the report has been put in a nut-shell. It points out the various steps taken by the Government regarding the improvement of the department. I do not therefore wish to go into details. But I may point out a few facts which are relevant to my district. Sir, as the Hon. Minister has pointed out, forest is an important source of national wealth and it is unfortunate that the area under forest in India is less than the minimum laid down by the expert authorities. The tract of land covered by forests in my district is so much that we have three divisions there. So far as retrenchment is concerned, I am at one with the Government that a regular scheme of retrenchment should be drawn up. My own impression is that there is such a large scope for retrenchment in the department that if the whole thing is done properly, there will be no opportunity for offering any criticism.

" So far as my district is concerned, let me point out, Sir, that there is a very severe famine in various taluks. In these circumstances, Sir, it will be really a boon if the Government would give the poor ryots extra facilities by way of grazing, by way of taking green leaf manure. It is not always that these concessions are demanded. It is only when the people of the districts are affected that such demands are made. I believe, Sir, this year also when famine conditions are prevailing, the Government will investigate

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the matter and find out what help can be rendered by the department. I beg to submit that the Government need not be very strict in this matter in times of famine and distress. We have got a large number of poor families who can be given lands in the bordering areas. Sir, forest lands can be easily assigned to the poor families without doing any harm which would damage our forest wealth. I also wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister that in several places forest rules work great hardship on the people living in villages near by. If cattle strayed a few yards near the reserved areas, then the man in charge of the cattle is penalized. It also happens that the district officers and the range officers take it into their heads to prosecute and bring the people into trouble just on a pretext.

"There is one more thing and I am done. I mean the co-ordination of the working of the department. More benefit will accrue by the Forest and Industries departments co-ordinating and putting forth a scheme by which joint work could be done. Just now I listened to the Hon. the Minister referring to the question of the supply of timber for electric poles. The Industries department requires large timber and the Forest department can supply. Let there be co-ordination between these two departments. With these few words, I move my cut motion."

*H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In seconding the token cut motion moved by my friend, I want to say only a few words in regard to the extraction work that is being done by the Government in its own department and also the sales that the Government are conducting of all forest produce. Sir, I see from the Budget Memorandum that there has been a larger revenue or rather an increase of revenue on account of the extraction work having been given to private contractors and on account of sales made through private persons. Sir, the important point in the memorandum of the Financial Secretary is that the increase in revenue under that head is due to the sales effected by private contractors and also to the large number of sales of coupes to private purchasers which realized better prices. It is also stated that this increase was more than what was anticipated. That being so, I suggest it would be better to bring in more revenue by the method of entrusting the extraction work to private contractors and also selling coupes to private purchasers. Sir, I understand that this system is being followed in Coorg on a very large scale and that has been the main cause of bringing in to that province a good deal of revenue from their forest areas. I do not see why this Government could not send out some persons on their behalf to study the conditions there and find out what methods are being followed for increasing the revenue from their forests. Sir, when sales to private persons are given on an increased scale, there is also a decrease in the expenditure to be incurred by the department on account of the extraction work.

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Therefore, Sir, in my view, if this method of employing private contractors is adopted on a wider scale, there will be not only a saving on the expenditure side but there will be also a distinct increase on the revenue side. Therefore, I would very strongly urge on the Minister in charge of Forests to consider the question seriously and, if possible, to send out a man to Coorg to study the conditions there.

3-45 p.m. "Sir, another question on which I want to speak is the abolition of the Forest College. After all, what I find from the Budget is that the income from the Forest College is about Rs. 25,000 per annum, whereas the expenditure is about one lakh of rupees. That means that the abolition of the College will give a saving of Rs. 75,000. After all, this is not a very large saving. What I wish to say is that a Forest College for this Province is necessary when we have got such large areas covered by forests and when forests are of such great importance for a province like ours and when there are such great possibilities of developing them and conserving and regenerating them. In these circumstances I do not see why we should think of abolishing the only college that we possess.

"The next point that I wish to refer to on this occasion concerns the grievances that we have got in the district of South Kanara. These grievances are that the villages lying along the Western Ghauts are at the foot of vast areas of forests and in consequence the cultivators there are always harassed and they carry on their cultivation work under trying conditions. The depredation of wild animals is always there. Again, there is malaria in all those tracts. It is a very trying time, therefore, for a very large number of villages which lie at the foot of the Western Ghauts. If the cultivators are living there under such difficult conditions, it is but fair and just that the Government should give them all facilities with regard to their needs and requirements to be got from the neighbouring forest areas. No doubt the Government have reduced the grazing fees by half. I would say that in such areas the grazing fees should be abolished altogether and the people must be given greater facilities for getting fuel and manure leaves. I am glad to hear from the Hon. the Minister in charge of Forests that cutting and taking away of grass in cart-loads has been allowed free of charge. That will no doubt be a very good thing for the villagers and the peasants and the cultivators. They have to thatch their houses every year before the monsoon begins and the free supply of grass will help them a good deal indeed. I would make a further request to Government to pay special attention to the cultivators and the peasants who have to carry on their cultivation work in areas which are bordering on forests. I know, Sir, in many villages near the ghauts, which are called sub-ghaut villages, cultivation is difficult; and the cultivators not being able to pay their rents leave their holdings

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and migrate to the neighbouring territory of Mysore. With these few words I second the token cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan."

* MR. D. M. REID:—" Mr. Speaker, there are a number of points in the very interesting speech of the Hon. Minister which, I think, call for attention. The Administration Report gives a very able and clear picture of the work of the department and as such it deserves more than a cursory glance and certainly merits a certain amount of critical analysis. I hope the Government will understand that these criticisms are not in any sense meant to be destructive, but are rather intended to be helpful and encouraging. The Forest department of Madras was started, I believe, about 80 years ago and therefore has a long succession of decades of interesting and useful experience behind it. I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Government and through them the Forest service in the production of this very interesting report and in the undoubted good and sincere service they are doing in the forests, no doubt often under great difficulties. The more I read this Administration Report the more have I become convinced of the immense possibilities of forest development in South India. It is therefore with, perhaps not dismay but rather, wonder that I have listened to the Hon. Minister apologizing as it were that he had not been able to make a greater retrenchment and appealing to the House to understand the necessity for the Forest service. For my part I would go to the other extreme altogether and say that it is not a case of apology, but it is a case for demanding more and more expenditure on this very remunerative enterprise. Page 3 of the Administration Report, sections 158–159 which no doubt all members have read, shows a surplus of Rs. 7·62 lakhs with an addition of other sums making a total surplus of Rs. 10·38 lakhs. That means a surplus of Rs. 10·38 lakhs on a total expenditure of Rs. 40 lakhs. This, from the ordinary commercial point of view, would look like very good business and would lead to the question, 'why not spend much more on this?' Why should not the Hon. Minister be able to come with a smile on his face and say, 'I need more money. I can make Rs. 60, 70 or 80 lakhs—even a crore out of the forests.' There is quite a possibility in the future of this country if things are only properly encouraged.

" I am astonished to see that the Forest College is being closed. I think it is a sad reflection on the people of this Presidency that that has to be the case. We heard from the Hon. Minister that this is done on account of retrenchment. On this matter I would go to the extent of saying that the idea that the Forest College is only for students who wish to become Forest officers is all wrong. The Forest College should be part of the general agricultural education system in this Presidency; and, as I have tried to express on the floor of this House, I think the

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Government ought to make it clear to the people that they do not go in for higher education just for the sake of the jobs that they may get, but to make them more efficient citizens, particularly more efficient politically, by the higher education which they would receive in the different forms of agriculture of which most necessarily forestry must form a part. Therefore I should like to see the training in the Forest College treated as an essential alternative to the general education of the young man when the time comes for him to see how best he can conclude his educational training. It is sad indeed to see at page 16, in paragraph 66, that in the 1936–37 division there was no private student belonging to the Madras Government in this class. That, Sir, is a sad reflection on the people of South India and their ideas of education. How can we expect this Legislature to be able to view the forests in the proper light unless we have among the non-officials one or two who were in the Forest College for the sake of the learning it gives and not for the sake of the jobs it is expected to give?

"Now, there are a number of minor points in this report which I would like to recount. I do not find anything in it about the soft woods and the possibilities of developing soft woods in this Presidency. I am only making a suggestion to the Government. I have no doubt that the department must have fully considered this and the Hon. Minister, I am sure, will agree that this ought to have been included in this report.

"I see at page 22 a very small reference to charcoal. I wonder what advances have been made by the Government in making charcoal in the forests and in planning for private enterprise to make charcoal over wider areas. and making provision for suitable means of transport for this essential commodity to reach the plains and the consuming centres. I see that the Hon. Minister is making a note. I have no doubt that he will consider the matter. I would suggest to him that it is worth very careful consideration whether he cannot widely extend the manufacture of charcoal in forests and make arrangements for the transport of the same down to the consuming centres.

"At page 50, in sections 75 to 77, there are three paragraphs about fuel. But, there again, they do not refer to charcoal. There is another possibility in charcoal and that is its use in motivation. I understand that charcoal can be used for internal combustion engines and that it might quite suitably be used for the right kind of transport for bringing down the supplies of charcoal from the forest regions to the consuming centres.

"That brings me to the general subject of fuel-supply in South India, which is so vital to this Presidency, because this Presidency completely lacks any coal as far as is at present known.

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In other places and in publications, I see appeals to the Government for undertaking a geological survey. I would suggest in the meantime that as no coal is known to exist in our Presidency, some other forms of fuel should be substituted. It is the policy of the Government to press, as much as possible, the use of electricity for steam production as opposed to power. I would suggest to the Government that it can never be really an economic proposition to raise process steam by electricity and that there are many industries which will have no future in South India unless they are provided with coal at a much cheaper rate than it is possible to-day to provide those industries with, or unless some substitute fuel is found. I do not wish to talk like a crank and suggest that it is possible by using charcoal to avoid the use of other fuel altogether. I suggest to the Hon. Minister that 4 p.m. a great deal may be done in that respect.

"The exploitation of suitable forest areas by planting fruit trees in suitable places on a larger scale seems to offer very great possibilities. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister with reference to page 4 of G.O. No. 87, which is included in this book, where the possibility of increasing the revenue from such produce as tamarind, jambu or neradi is mentioned, that there is very good possibility of growing orange plantations. Oranges have a remarkably good market all the world over and a suitable strong policy of encouraging private enterprise and planting orange trees in suitable places in the forest areas is well worth his consideration.

"Then paragraph 99 of this Report on page 18 is fascinating and encouraging. This is what it says:

'An experiment was initiated some six years ago into the possibility of forcing the initial growth of teak by irrigation in the Hulikal Reserve of Mottupalayam range, a locality not suited to teak. The experiment proved a success.'

From the opinions I have gathered, it seems to me that there are great possibilities in that direction and when the teak plants that have been planted now mature, it will eventually give an income of at least 30 lakhs of rupees a year to the Government. Mr. Speaker, it will give a net income of Rs. 30 lakhs to the Government if this present successful policy of growing teak is pursued. I understand that this way of growing teak is quite different from the odd planting of teak in inaccessible spots and that the old system which has continued for eighty years has been superseded. What this Government should do is to take a longer view of the forest policy than they are doing at present; they should take a longer view and adopt a policy for about fifty or sixty years.' Fifty years is nothing. Let the Government plan for fifty or sixty years and plant suitable areas with teak so that our successors may eventually reap really good harvests from this. Now, perhaps this would seem too imaginary and I am not in any way detracting

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from the valuable work which the Hon. Minister and his department are doing in this respect and I am sure, his staff are giving him every possible assistance, and I am sure the Hon. Minister is able to get all the information he likes at any time.

"I suggest to this Government that South India with 50 millions of people and with a vast area of forest lands justifies a separate Minister for the Forest department. I suggest again, with due respect to the Hon. Minister, and with no reflection whatever on anybody, the appointment of an executive officer under him with full and wide powers—just as you have in times of emergency—with commercial experience and with a good imagination, with freedom to spend Rs. 50 lakhs a year on this great and commercial proposition, which would need publicity and which would need advertisement. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister that such an officer should be allowed to spend usefully a good deal more money on advertisements than what is being done at present. Very few people know anything about forests or what they can get from forests, and I am sure that this is largely due to the tight hand on the purse strings of the department. I suggest to the Hon. Minister how such an officer could usefully spend say Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 25,000 or whatever it might be on advertisements, not only in this country but in other countries about the products that are produced in the forests of South India. We have seen, those of us in the commercial world, very attractive advertisements regarding products that are produced in other countries, and the only way in which we can make other countries know about our products is by way of advertisement in those countries, about our forest and agricultural products. Therefore I would suggest to the Hon. Minister to do this.

"Now, before the forest can be properly developed, there is one main essential thing that has to be done, and that is the laying out of proper means of transport from forest areas. I had thought in my mind of the possibilities of tramways and railways but it seems to me that they are not feasible propositions. Therefore the Government must undertake a vigorous policy of laying out roads throughout the forests in order that the produce produced there may be easily taken outside. But the Hon. Minister may rightly say that the road problem is most difficult. I would suggest that the road problem here is something quite different. It should be considered as capital expenditure on a commercial enterprise for future remuneration. Therefore it should be quite fitting and proper to finance the building of roads throughout the forest areas by loans. I should make it quite clear that this is not the confirmed policy of my group, but this is my own personal view. I would suggest that it is quite a proper thing to do; and in any case there must be roads throughout the forest areas, if the products are to be brought down.

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" Finally I would like to make a plea for keeping the Forest department completely free from all adverse influences of party politics. In criticizing the Forest policy of the Government, I am criticizing the former Governments just as well as I do the present Government. I think the forest question should be kept as a national and non-controversial issue and should never be treated as a political pawn."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Sir, after the exhaustive manner in which the Forest policy of the Government has been dealt with by various speakers before me, I do not think I have any useful suggestions to make. The hon. Member representing the European Chamber of Commerce drew the attention of the Government for advertising the products of the forests. I see in this book, the last Administration Report of Forest department, evidence of advertisement of the Forest department as such. I was told some time back by a very prominent officer in the Forest department that lay men should not talk about the Forest department. So I do not propose to go into details owing to that warning, but all the same this department seems to be conspiring in keeping everything connected with the Forest department as far as possible away from the graze of the lay men; so much so, one wonders whether, after all, all the expenditure that is made on this department is a waste and whether this large staff and highly paid officers are necessary and are not superfluous. There is a fall in the revenue and there is a slight fall in the expenditure. That I take it is due to what is mentioned on page 4 of the report, viz., that certain economies have been effected. The Report says: 'Since the close of the year, the Government have decided to abolish six posts in the Madras Forest Service and have recommended to the Secretary of State the abolition of fifteen posts in the Indian Forest Service.' I think the Government have got rid of a few of the Madras Forest Service officers and the officers of the Imperial Service are still remaining. I do not know how many of them have gone out. The Report does not go into details, nor does the Budget Memorandum say how many of the Indian Forest Service officers have gone. We are told that the matter is under correspondence with the Secretary of State. This question of the Secretary of State and the Imperial Services, I think, is very much a live issue and I shall on a suitable occasion ask the Hon. the Leader of the House to take us into confidence and tell us what exactly the position is. The point is that the Hon. Minister who made an elaborate speech has not told us how many of these officers have been removed already and how many will be removed as a result of the correspondence with the Secretary of State. There is no indication of that in the Report.

" But then, I would like to draw the attention of the House to one statement made by the officer who submitted this Report. He says: 'These drastic economies—which Government feel to be

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ecessary even though they may result in some loss of efficiency—annot, it is feared, fail to result in some deterioration in both he protective and the financial value of the forests.' Now, I would ike to ask the Hon. Minister whether he is in charge of the epartment or it is this officer? If this officer feels strongly that ertain economies are going to result in loss of efficiency and fails n his attempt to keep the existing strength of the department, think he must resign as he will be the head of an inefficient administration. Either the officer must govern or the Hon. Minis-er. We cannot have this report submitted to us with this differ-nce of opinion between the officer and the Government. I think hat the Report should not have been presented to us in this form. If the officer is of a different opinion, viz., that there is going to be inefficiency and loss, let him put in his application for propor-tionate pension and retire and leave the Hon. Minister to choose an officer who has faith that the Minister's policy will result in efficiency. I ask the Government what the object is of spending such a large sum of money over this department at the head of which is an officer who has no faith in the Government's policy and chooses to express his disagreement so strongly.

"Then there is the question of the Forest Engineer which has been kept in abeyance. My hon. Friend representing the Indian Christian constituency of Madras mentioned last year that there was no need for the existence of the appointment of Forest Engineer. But there it is. This advertisement which appears on the first page of this report gives me the impression that it is a plea that the Forest Engineer must be retained. That advertise-ment seems to suggest, 'Do keep my appointment; I am doing useful work. I have built this bridge.' That is the only point that I wanted to impress upon the Hon. Minister.

"Sir, I am probably as commercially minded as my hon. Friend the Member for the European Chamber of Commerce; but I do not believe that advertisement of the forest produce and things of that sort would be of much help to us. As has been mentioned there is a large denudation of forests and they have got to be preserved. Nobody says they ought not to be preserved. But at the same time we must cut out the heavy overhead charges. There is no point in maintaining the Forest department with such large overhead charges. With regard to some of the forests, I should like to know if they are forests at all. I happened to read some time back in the Agricultural Commission's Report that forests with a rainfall of less than 30 inches per year are not worth maintaining. I do not put in a plea for further denuda-tion of forests. But is it worth while spending money and main-taining forests which are not likely to become real first-class forests, but are mere scrub jungles? The superstition still persists and you call them forests. What happens? The villagers are not allowed to permit their goats to graze there and if the goats go there, the

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villagers are heavily fined. It is more a nuisance to the villagers to have these forests round about their villages.

"There is one more question on which I want to speak before I finish and that is with regard to forest panchayats. Some of the Government officers and many people interested in forest panchayats consider them a failure. You find occasionally mention in the Administration Reports that the forest panchayats have been going out one after another because they cannot have the necessary men and material to manage them. Is it not worth while to review the policy of forest panchayats? Is there any need to keep them going? The general complaint is that they lead to corruption and no good comes out of them."

* Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, we have had a very interesting debate on this Demand."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"More interesting debate is still coming."

* Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I would ask hon. Members in the first instance to remember one general proposition that the Forest department is both a service department and a revenue earning department."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, may I know how it is that a member on the Government side is now speaking before members on this side are allowed to speak?"

Mr. SPEAKER:—"No other hon. Member rose to speak. Mr. Varadachari alone rose and I have called him."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"My name is there on the list. There is also Mr. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu's name."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"If you had risen in your place, you might have been called."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"I am sorry, Sir, that there has been some mistake."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"There can be no mistake. No hon. Member rose in his place; Mr. Varadachari alone rose in his place and he was called upon to speak."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Have I then lost my right to speak?"

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Not at all. That was why I observed some time back that there was still further interesting debate."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"With great respect to you, Mr. Speaker, and with due deference to your ruling, I would like very much that hon. Members on this side of this House should be allowed to speak and place their points of view, before hon. Members on the other side are allowed to speak."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Krishna Rao thinks that the Opposition members should exhaust themselves before any member on

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the Government side is called upon to speak. It is not necessary to do so. If hon. Members on the right side want to speak by way of replying to the members of the Opposition I will certainly call the members alternately. The debate not having been carried on on those lines, I have not been calling hon. Members on the other side."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"With greatest regard and respect to you, Mr. Speaker, I may point out that hon. Members who have given notice of cut motions and whose names appear in the lists must be given preference over those whose names do not appear in the list."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I may at once say that simply because a member has given notice of a cut motion he has not got the right of addressing the House. Under the procedural law, simply because a member gives notice of a cut motion, it does not give him the right to address the House. At that rate fifty members may give notice of cut motions and all the fifty members may not have the time to speak within the four hours allotted to the Demand. Therefore the matter must be decided in a way which will conduce to the proper conduct of debate. Hon. Members on the other side also have got a right to address the House on cut motions, but every indulgence has been shown to hon. Members on the Opposition and they have been generally called upon to speak. Practically every member who wanted to speak on each cut motion has been given an opportunity to speak. Mr. Krishna Rao will have opportunities of speaking on all the 37 Demands if he wants."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"On a point of explanation, Mr. Speaker, I fully agree that great indulgence has been shown and is always shown by you to hon. Members of the Opposition. But I want to know whether my hon. Friend, Mr. Varadachari, is replying on behalf of the Government or whether he is speaking as a private Member."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not think that Mr. Varadachari is replying to the debate on behalf of the Government. The moment he finds that he is entrenching upon the Minister's right to reply on behalf of the Government,, I will pull him up."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, is it quite correct for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Forest Minister to be intervening as a private individual in the debate?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I would like to say, Sir, that every Member of the House is entitled to throw light on the subjects discussed on the floor of the House. The fact that a member happens to be a Parliamentary Secretary gives him certain duties to perform on behalf of the Government whenever occasion arises; but it cannot take away from him the right to

participate in the debate. Of course he will not, by reason of his being a Parliamentary Secretary, run counter to the Government. But surely it should not be considered that only hon. Members on the Opposition have the right of debate and hon. Members on the right have not the right of participating in the debate at all."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" May I make a small submission, Sir? I thought, Sir, that you were yourself calling the names of hon. Members . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Because nobody else was standing, I called upon Mr. Varadachari to speak."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" I would have stood up half-a-dozen times."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member would have been called half-a-dozen times if he had stood up half-a-dozen times."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" I thought, Sir, that you were calling upon the members to speak in the serial order in which their names appear in the list."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Because nobody else was rising to speak I was calling upon members that stood to speak."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" On a point of information, Sir, may I ask what is the procedure with regard to this matter? Should members stand up or will you yourself call upon hon. Members to speak? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The correct procedure is that every hon. Member who wants to address the House, whether he is a Minister or an ordinary member, should rise from his place and the Chair will call upon him to speak. If four or five hon. Members rise at the same time, the Chair will call upon him who catches its eye first. The correct rules of procedure are of course being followed according to the exigencies of the situation in the House. As a matter of fact, all hon. Members on the Opposition who wanted to speak on any matter have been given opportunities of speaking and no one has been denied the opportunity.

" Then with regard to the other point raised by Mr. Langley, I may inform the House that Parliamentary Secretaries are not precluded from speaking on any matter in this House, but as a matter of convention and discipline they are precluded from criticizing the Government or speaking against the policy of the Government."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" May I say, Mr. Speaker, that I was not criticizing the Government? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Varadachari is not concerned in this matter, but certain incidents have happened on the floor of the House and they might have been in the minds of some hon

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Members. That is why I wanted to clear up those doubts by saying that if a Parliamentary Secretary should inadvertently attempt to criticize the policy of the Government, he would be pulled up."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Sir, taking up the thread of the debate on the subject, I wish to point out that judged by these two tests, the Forest department has done exceedingly well. Applying the pure revenue test, you will find that the net revenue earned by this department has gone on increasing from year to year since 1935–36. In 1935–36 it was Rs. 2 lakhs, in 1936–37 it was Rs. 5 lakhs, in 1937–38 it was Rs. 7;61 lakhs and the revised estimates for 1938–39 which I trust will possibly be exceeded, show a net revenue of Rs. 8 lakhs if we make allowance for the loss due to the reduction of the grazing fees by half which the Government have ordered during this year.

" Sir, one hon. Member said that as forests promise to be a very paying department we must spend more and more money and look forward to more and more revenue from this department. I would only ask the hon. Member to look into the Administration Report a little more closely and he will find that during the last two years while charges on actual establishment have been going down, the charges on account of conservancy and works have generally increased. I think it is this that the hon. Member wants. He will find that year after year as new forests are opened up, inaccessible forests are made accessible for exploitation, and new plantations are made either of teak or of other important timbers, there will be more expenditure on conservancy and works than the hon. Member possibly anticipates at this hour.

" I now come to the second point and let us see whether the Forest department has not acquitted itself well as a service department. If you go through the figures placed before you, you wil' find that in all directions of activity such as the extraction o! timber, fuel, sandalwood, bamboo and minor forest produce anc in everything which legitimately belongs to this department, ther has been an increased amount of work during the last year. Mor cattle have been grazed and more facilities for grazing given. may be permitted to add that in other directions the Governmen have been pursuing a forward policy. I am not using the wor ' forward ' myself, but I am borrowing it from the Chief Conse vator of Forests who used it on one occasion. The Forest depar ment has taken up many new items of work. It has taken up, the Hon. Minister has pointed out, experimental wattle plant tions, a thing which in my opinion ought to have been done te years ago before the tremendous depression came on in the price avaram bark, as a result of which this department lost its reven to the extent of several lakhs. It will be experimenting cinnamon plantations on the West Coast. Very recently an offic of the department was sent to the island of Ceylon to study about cinnamon. His very valuable report is before us and t Forest department will shortly begin work in this direction al

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We have also planned for an extended cultivation of cashew nut and the extended raising of cardamoms in the natural forests. Besides this I may point out that we have concentrated a good deal on the question not merely of the cultivation of lac in forest belts, but also on the production of lac products like varnishes and polishes, sealing wax and various other things with regard to which a certain amount of research has already been done and much more research is still to be undertaken. For instance, there is the question of the production of insulating varnish which is an important requirement in the elestrical trade and it can be manufactured with a little more effort even by the Forest department. 4– p.m

"Then, Sir, we have taken up the question of substituting wood poles or steel poles for electrical transmission lines. The question is a difficult one, because we have to decide on proper preservatives. But I think very soon the whole question will be settled and the Government will be advancing year after year and will use more wood poles in the place of steel poles in the Electricity department.

"Mr. Reid made a reference to charcoal. An interesting experiment is afoot in the Forest department and they are going to run two or even more lorries on charcoal, for the purpose of experimenting on this and announcing the results to the public, so that eventually it may result in the use of more charcoal lorries wherever practicable. The use of charcoal lorries is eminently practicable on even roads, though it may not be so for service on very steep inclines and on ghaut sections.

"Then again, Sir, we are investigating the question of manufacturing paper from local grasses and bamboo. The former is going to be a cottage industry of great value to the people. If bodha grass which is responsible for devastating fires, especially in the districts of Kurnool, Cuddapah and Chittoor, is going to be used for the manufacture of valuable paper, it will probably be possible for a number of our young men to work on this industry and we can also have plenty of good paper for our use and also perhaps for use by people beyond our borders.

"Sir, Mr. Reid called attention to the question of soft woods. It is a very important question; I know that an eminent authority on forests recently said that there was going to be a famine of soft woods in the next thirty or forty years throughout the world. Sir, we note the caution that he bas given us and we shall strain every nerve to explore all the very valuable evergreen forests in the Western Ghauts and the Coimbatore and Madura districts and will try every means in our power not only to extract all useful soft wood but also to regenerate as much wood as we take away from the forests during every year. The question of the regeneration of soft wood is much more difficult than the question of the regeneration of other timbers and hence the difficulty in regard to this

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matter. But the Government have taken note of this fact and intend to make as much use as possible of the soft wood that is available to them in their forests. But I may inform Mr. Reid that very valuable results have already been attained by experiments in Dehra Dun. The thing has not remained in experiments only; the experiments hae shown large commercial possibilities, because a single factory in Calicut is now turning out enormous quantities of plywood which will ultimately supply my friend over there, Mr. Langley, with all the tea chests that he may want for exporting his tea from the plantations. Soft woods are useful for various other purposes; but it is not my intention to go into all of them now.

" There is yet another line which this Government are pursuing with real zeal. It is to make forest produce assist cottage industries. A hair comb wood-working circle has been formed at Chittoor. I believe I may speak of the wood-comb both from an industrial and moral standpoint: because I believe large numbers of people who have been dubbed criminal tribes by reason of their having lost the little skill that they possessed (on account of all of as having abandoned the wood-comb for the celluloid combs), will again find occupation in this trade. Then there are the slate frames, about which I want Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan to take some interest. About Rs. 80 lakhs worth of slates are being imported into India; and what does my friend Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan do? In Kurnool there is an abundant field for making slates and the Forest department will supply not only timber frames but some bamboo frames as well, if only my hon. Friend will take some interest and do propaganda for the sale of these slates.

" Sir, I can talk about many more cottage industries which the Forest department can foster. But, Sir, I shall add only one more to the list of new activities. We are canvassing a vigorous retail sale of sandalwood. It is a distressing thing to see that most of our temples in South India are now using sandalwood either imported or faked sandalwood brought from Australia, not the real stuff but the counterfeit one. The Hindu Religious Endowments Board has already issued a circular to all our temples to buy sandalwood only from the Forest department. The Mysore people may press all their sandalwood into oil and market it to other countries, but we have still a large market left in our own country for retail sale of sandalwood, and I may inform the House that during the Congress Exhibition at Tripuri, the few sandalwood pieces which were sent there for exhibition purposes, were all sold out even on the opening day. Ther was an interesting report from the Exhibition Officer there who stated that there is a prospective market in Northern India for sandalwood from Southern India, which we must cultivate.

" Then, Sir, more than all these, we are concentrating on the question of employment for the poorest classes and criminal tribes

in this country, not by assigning away thousands of acres of land on which they may bestow all their skill, but still get no adequate return therefrom, but by engaging them on kumri cultivation which will help to regenerate the denuded fuel forests but which will give continuous occupation for these people and get food for them without their having to pay any taxes to Government. I want hon. Members to interest themselves in this matter also. Possibly, many of them are not aware of all the abovementioned activity because the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and I are the only lone wanderers in these forests, and no hon. Member has cared yet to know what this kumri cultivation is and what its possibilities are. There are great possibilities for kumri cultivation. My friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan, would not have talked about the condition of the Nallamalais, if he had only seen to it that the slopes of the Nallamalais which are a real protection to the whole of that district and the Cuddapah district had not become so denuded as they are to-day and done something for kumri cultivation by persuading poorer ryots to take to it

"I now come, Sir, to the question of retrenchment, on which Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari laid much emphasis. Sir, there is the opinion of an officer, and I believe in freedom of expression of opinion for the officer. But the hon. Member will see that along with the administration report, which has been supplied in advance to him, there is not printed the Government memorandum, or the Government review of the report. It is still in print and is not yet ready for distribution to hon. Members. But coming to the subject, I may inform the hon. Member that it is true that we have sent out, rather compulsorily retired, some officers from the Madras Forest Service. It is a painful thing. I do not glory in it; but after all things had been thoroughly examined and we were satisfied that retrenchment was necessary, we had to go through it. But then he asks, 'Why this pitilessness in the case of the Madras Forest Service people alone and why this soft attitude towards the Indian Forest Service?' Yes, Sir; but the hon. Member must be aware that these latter are in the care of the Secretary of State. Here again, I may inform him that out of these fifteen posts to be retrenched, two officers have already taken their pensions and have retired; one of them has applied for leave preparatory to retirement, so that there are really only twelve posts to be knocked out. We shall develop, Sir, enough moral pressure, because we are convinced that our case is so just and so strong, that the Secretary of State dare not resist opinion from this side. The Hon. the Prime Minister would like every member of this House to be reticent, but I would appeal to members of the Opposition to assist us in this matter and come forward with clear and emphatic expression of opinion that what the Government have done in this particular matter is correct, is just and is warranted. After these estimates were issued, the Hon. Minister was kind enough to inform

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the House that two more divisions had been abolished and eight other ranger charges have also been redistributed so that I may tell the hon. Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan that we have not been sleeping over this question but have been keeping a vigilant and watchful eye over this question of avoidable expenditure in the Forest department. We intend to effect only such retrenchment as would not result in any loss of efficiency and would not result in any deterioration of the activities of the Forest department.

"Mr. Hussain came forward with the usual King Charles's head of South Kanara grievances . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"*Just one minute more.*"

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I need not refer to other points, but I will appeal to hon. Members to pay a few visits to our forests, especially to the more interesting of them. I would ask hon. Members to go in batches to Mount Stuart, to Nilambur or Wynaad, or to Upper Godavari, where they will see large teak plantations, where natural and mixed forests have been rendered into pure teak plantations and where your future capital is being laid up—a thing on which so much emphasis was laid by Mr. Reid when he said that at the end, say, of sixty or eighty years, we might guarantee an annual return of Rs. 10 or Rs. 20 lakhs even on teak alone. But we are not concentrating on teak alone; we are doing many more things. I want hon. Members to come there, because then alone they will see the work of this department. I would like to join Mr. Reid in paying my tribute, merely not to the higher ranks of service in the Forest department, but to the poor subordinates who, despite ill-health, despite want of comfort, despite want of facilities for the education of their children, etc., are carrying on their duties. I know of one instance, the case of a poor ranger in Ulandi; he is almost in solitary captivity there; but for the little telephone which he has between him and Mount Stuart, he has no other happiness or comfort in this world. In this way, they are carrying on quite fairly their duties, in spite of criticism. I know, Sir, what the life of a ranger is, my own father was a poor ranger; I have wandered with him; I have known the hostility of the common people who do not understand the principles of sound forest policy. But to hon. Members here I would only say this:

'To forests, from their very nature, the usual maxims of political economy which leaves such undertakings (meaning commercial undertakings) to private enterprise, cannot be applied. Their vast extent, the long time that a tree takes to reach maturity and the consequence that few persons live long enough to obtain any, and more specially the highest, returns for expenditure, even once in the course of their lives, are proofs of the necessity that forest management should be conducted on permanent principles and not be left to the negligence, avarice or caprice of individuals, and therefore point to the State as the proper administrator bound to take care, that in supplying the wants of present generations, there is no reckless waste, no needless forestalling of the supply of future generations.'

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" Sir, these sentences are not mine, but are from an old despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 4th April 1863 to the Government of Fort St. George of that day. Very wise words, these. I should like hon. Members to visit our forests also for another reason. There is something magnificent there. If only I can put it in appropriate words, I will say that when you do come you can picture to yourself all the glory and the beauty of a forest in the words of a poet which you will kindly allow me to repeat—

Many a tree is found in the wood,
And every tree for its use is good,
Some for the strength of the gnarled root,
Some for the sweetness of flower or fruit,
Some for shelter against the storm,
Some to keep the hearth stone warm,
Some for the roof, some for the beam,
And some for a boat to breast the storm,
In the wealth of the wood since the world began,
The trees have offered their gifts to man.
But the glory of trees is more than their gifts,
It is a beautiful wonder of life that lifts,
From a wrinkled seed in an earth-bound clod,
A pillar of power, a dome of delight,
A column, an arch, in the temple of God,
A shrine of song and a joy of sight.
Their roots are nurses of rivers in birth,
Their leaves are alive with heath of earth,
They shelter the dwellings of man and they bend,
Over his grave with the look of a loving friend."

(Applause.)

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, in the first place I have to compliment the Hon. the Minister in charge of Agriculture and Rural Development for the courage with which he has tackled the administration of the Forest department. I do not mean, Sir, that there is anything wrong in the administration of the department, but it has often been pointed out that the department is over-manned and top-heavy and that it has suffered considerably in the matter of receipts. That aspect having been repeatedly pointed out to the Government on the floor of this House, the Hon. Minister lost no time or opportunity in tackling the question strongly and presenting before this House a budget which shows a fair balance of receipt over expenditure. Sir, if we turn to the Budget Memorandum, we will find on page 22 from the receipts given under Forests from 1920–21 to 1936–37, that during the year 1929–30 the forest revenue reached the peak point amounting to Rs. 63·54 lakhs. But ever since that year, there has been a steady fall in revenue from year to year, and unfortunately it reached the lowest figure in about 1934–35. It was therefore time to caution the Forest department with reference to

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the diminishing returns and it is therefore a matter for gratification that the tide has turned and during the past three years we are having a balance of receipts over expenditure. As shown from the report of the Forest department the balance has been increasing from year to year, and during the year 1937–38 we get a balance of about Rs. 7 lakhs over expenditure.

"Sir, considering the extent of the forest area in this Province, one would admit that after all there is not much to compliment ourselves on. On the other hand, if we turn to the neighbouring State of Mysore about which I referred last year—and I am sure it will bear repetition this year also—we find that the total extent of forests is only 4,000 square miles. Mysore is reputed to be an advanced State in the matter of development of nation-building departments. From their forests, they make a revenue of Rs. 26 lakhs; and deducting Rs. 10 lakhs they get from sandalwood oil, the balance is Rs. 16 lakhs which they get from their forests. That works out to a figure of about Rs. 250 per square mile. But in the case of our forests, as we see from the figures given in the Forest Administration Report, the extent of our forests is 18,396 square miles; of which 15,924 square miles are directly under the control of the department and the rest about 3,000 and odd square miles, classed as class III forests are worked by the forest panchayats under the control of the Revenue department. The total of 18,000 and odd square miles of forests, yield a net profit of Rs. 5 lakhs and it works out to Rs. 29 per square mile as opposed to Rs. 250 per square mile in Mysore. This was the disturbing factor that made members of this House and the public outside to caution the Forest department and the Government in charge of the Forest portfolio to find out ways and means of restoring the forest revenue to its former level. I am, however, glad to find that this matter has been very carefully tackled with the result that as I have already submitted, there is an increase of revenue, which I hope, will be maintained or increased in future years. I hope that by the various methods of improvement indicated in the Forest Administration Report, as well as in the Government Order based on that report, the revenue would increase in course of time and that the Forest department will take its legitimate rank along with the other earning departments of the Government so that it might shoulder a larger responsibility in the matter of expenditure.

"While on this point, I would like to make a few observations which bear directly on the question of Forest finance. Sir, I do not of course shut my eyes to the very admirable piece of work that has been done by the Forest department in the matter of the artificial regeneration described on page 2, paragraph 7, of the Forest Administration Report. We find from that paragraph that about 23,000 acres of land have been planted with various kinds of valuable species of timber which in course of time would give us about 3½ crores. That is indeed a very good piece of work and that is the sort of work that one would expect the Forest

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department to pay its unrelenting attention to from year to year in order that the reproach so often hurled at the Forest department—perhaps with some justification—might be obviated.

" Sir, in the matter of water-supply to the cattle grazing in the forests, I find to my surprise that the amount spent during the whole year on such an extensive area as 18,000 square miles, was only a sum of Rs. 4,745—a very meagre amount compared with the necessities of providing water-supply to the cattle grazing in our reserved forests. I referred to this point on a former occasion and I now also appeal to the Government to see that a larger amount is spent year after year in providing water facilities to the cattle. Sir, the Forest Engineer has been employed on various items of work including the means of procuring suitable water-supply, but unfortunately nothing seems to have materialized, so much so that the money spent is after all only about Rs. 4,000 and odd on an extensive area of forests. I would draw the attention of the Hon. the Minister in regard to this difficulty in the Forest department and I hope that every endeavour will be made to remove this difficulty in course of time.

" Now, Sir, dealing with another aspect of Forest administration, I find that the injury to the forests caused by fire has been on the increase of late years. That is a rather disturbing feature in the administration of forests. We find from the statement given on page 9 of the Administration Report that during the year 1937–38 there have been no less than 1,228 cases of fire, whether due to accident or incendiarism, but the fact remains that the number of cases undetected was over a thousand. Sir, if our forests have to be conserved, proper steps should be taken at whatever cost it may be, to prevent these extensive fires which damage our forests. To allow these thousand cases to remain undetected, Sir, seems to reflect discredit. I would therefore in this connexion draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the considerable damages done by these extensive fires so that proper steps may be taken to prevent a recurrence of such fires in future.

" Coming to the natural causes, Sir, I find that the spike disease, which has been prevalent in the forests for some years past, has not been tackled in a proper and efficient manner. I am sorry to say that I am compelled to make this remark in view of the fact that from year to year we find that this spike disease has been devastating a large number of sandalwood trees, so much so that the sale of sandalwood trees is confined only to dead trees, and it has not been possible to exploit the live trees for the reason that we have enough and more of dead trees to dispose of due to the prevalence of spike disease among them. This is what is stated on page 11, paragraph 46:

' In spite of the control measures adopted, the disease is spreading in Vellore West, and has infected a very large number of trees. Preventive and control measures are continued, and the results are carefully observed.'

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"On page 15, dealing with the same matter, we find a still stronger condemnation. It is stated:

'It is still necessary to confine the exploitation of sandalwood to the extraction of dead trees only, in view of the fact that the mortality from "spike" disease is high. In most divisions where it occurs, dead sandalwood is extracted on a six-year felling cycle, in order that the ground shall be worked over as often as possible, and so the danger of the trees being destroyed by fire minimised. A total area of approximately 400,000 acres was worked in this way during the year.'

"We find from paragraph 87 of the report (page 16) that sandal regenerated itself, as usual with great profusion in all the forests where it occurs.' The matter therefore requires very careful consideration on the part of the Government especially in view of the fact that this profuse regeneration caused by nature is so mercilessly damaged by the spike disease. My p.m. remark with reference to this matter is that it has not as yet been tackled properly, for we find from the report on page 18 that only a ranger has been employed to investigate into this disease. When we have such large staff in Forest department, it is deplorable that the investigation of this disease should have been entrusted to a ranger. I shall read the paragraph in question for the information of the House:

'Investigation into the spike disease of sandal continued under the special duty ranger at Denkanikota in Salem North. Work has been largely concentrated on endeavouring to isolate the insects which are responsible for infecting the sandal; nothing definite has been discovered but work is proceeding steadily on correct lines.'

I decline to accept the assurance that everything is proceeding steadily and on correct lines. This has been going on from year to year, and with a highly trained staff at the disposal of the department, to say that nothing definite has been done so far seems rather discouraging. It is a pity that the department has not been able to depute an experienced officer to tackle this problem. This I submit is a matter which requires the immediate attention of the Government.

"I wish to say a word or two about the ubiquitous prickly-pear. A few years ago this was tackled very effectively by introduction of the white cochineal insects, and these fed upon the prickly-pear and devastated them so much so that a number of ryots got their lands cleared of this awful pest. Enormous amount of money had been spent by the Government from year to year particularly in the Forest department to clear the prickly-pear but without success; the cochineal insects came in very handy for this purpose. But now, after the lapse of one or two years the prickly-pear has come to show its head and is reviving. It is disheartening to find from the report that this insect has been introduced with no appreciable result in certain portions of the forests. I do not know why the insects have failed this time. If they have failed, I wish to know whether investigations have been

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made as to why they have failed and whether any substitute has been discovered in the matter of destroying prickly-pear. Investigation into that matter is very necessary and I find that this has not been stated in the report.

"As regards the closing of the Forest College, I do not think that I need say anything more than what has been stated by the Hon. Minister. I do not deplore the abolition of the college. As stated by my hon. Friend, Colonel Reid, in the year 1937–38 there were sixteen students, but not a single student, Government or private, belonging to Madras; Bombay contributed six, Sind two, from Ceylon we had two, one student from Coorg and two each from Travancore and Hyderabad. When it is seen that the college did not serve the interests of Madras, there is little reason for its existence. It is for that reason that it was considered desirable to close this institution; but I think there is nothing to prevent the Government re-opening the institution if it is found that there is scope for tuition being imparted to local students in order to employ more men in our forests. There seems to be no need at present for the college and no one need grudge its being closed down.

"Coming to the question of afforestation, we are thankful to our predecessors for the able conservancy of the forests and the foresight with which they have provided the country with good forests. But nothing has been done of late by the department or by the Government in the matter of afforestation. In the matter of exploitation, we have been working regularly. I shall just invite reference to a few lines on page 17 of the report. I do not know why the afforestation operations have been so summarily disposed of with these words:

'The formation of plantations of casuarina continued in Nellore, Guntur and Lower Godavari divisions.'

'The planting of cashewnut in Mangalore North was undertaken in several suitable localities.'

This is all that the Forest department has been able to achieve during the past year in the matter of afforestation. Let me turn to the statement on page 30 of the report to point out the progress of afforestation in the particular areas mentioned. What is the sort of afforestation that has been carried on? Only two hundred acres of land have been planted with casuarina all the year round—a poor performance. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the poor work done in this connexion.

"Sir, with reference to the remarks made by the Government in reviewing the report, I regret I shall have to take exception to one or two directions that have been given by the Government. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the

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amount of disreservation that has been going on under the orders of Government. There is not only an absence of adequate afforestation but on the other hand, there has been active disreservation. For instance, in the district of Chingleput, which is a poor district from the point of view of forests and where the forest division was abolished some years ago, there has been disreservation to the extent of 119 acres for purposes of assignment to the scheduled classes in the Thaiyur forest panchayat area. Further disreservation has been ordered in respect of 232 acres in the Kattur panchayat forest. We see that the Government have also disreserved 108 acres in Kattu Budalur reserved forest in the same district. All this is done in a district which is not well served in respect of forests. Further, an extent of 330 acres of panchayat forest in Avadi has been disreserved for assignment to the Radhaswami Sat Sangh Sabha. I have not the slightest complaint about the objects behind these grants; but taking away such large slices of forest area from the Chingleput district cannot be without harmful effect on the district. We see that this policy of disreservation has been carried on rather too far. In fact, I am afraid that we are passing beyond the line of demarcation. Such disreservation, whatever its object may be—it does not in the least make any difference whether it is for assignment to the scheduled classes, or if it is for purposes of a colony—would be detrimental to the interests of forest conservancy and, ultimately, of agriculture. I would, therefore, sound a note of caution, if I can do so, to the Hon. Minister that further disreservation may stop. Another deplorable fact is that even the extent sought to be disreserved is not mentioned. It is merely stated in some cases in the Government Order that a plot in the Wenlock Downs is to be disreserved and set apart for cultivation purposes. It ought to be remembered that this is an area which is eminently suited for high forests. It is far removed from places of habitation, and distance would stand in the way of its being cultivated, for ryots would find it difficult to carry on cultivation there under the present circumstances. You know, Sir, that forests in the hills are intended for climatic considerations and for safeguarding the sources of water-supply. It is a pity that forests should be invaded in this fashion. I would like to ask whether waste lands, assessed or unassessed could not be given to the cultivators or whether other lands could not be assigned to them elsewhere than in Wenlock Downs. I do not grudge assignment to scheduled classes. By all means grant them lands; give them all facilities to hold landed property. But in the matter of the assignment of the Wenlock Downs I have to observe that it is far away from human habitation and the cultivators themselves would find it difficult to cultivate the land and that the locality in question is only suited for the purpose of rearing high forests and not for cultivation purposes. It is not possible for ryots to be going

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from Ootacamund to the Downs for cultivation purposes. I submit that this assignment seems to have been made without sufficient consideration of all these facts. I would appeal to the Government that such unrestricted disreservation might not be made in future.

" The last point in the report, which, with your indulgence I would like to comment upon, is that the officers of the department are required to attend to the exploitation of minor forest produce which as hitherto been exploited by the contractors. Hereafter, it is to be taken up under the direct management of the departmental officers. That means frittering away the energies of highly trained and efficient staff on objects, which may yield perhaps a little more revenue than before, but would not be commensurate with the loss of efficiency caused by deflecting their services to this particular item of work. There are highly trained officers, like the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Assistant Conservators and Extra Assistant Conservators; they are highly trained officers and to call upon them to attend to the exploitation of minor forest produce seems to me to be sheer waste of energy and waste of money. There is what is called division of labour and it is a pity that they should have been asked to attend to the exploitation of minor forest produce like tamarind, jambu, neradi, wood-apple, supplying ascu treated poles, planting avaram and such other items of work of a routine nature. Such work was hitherto assigned to contractors. The only reason for the change seems to be that the Government would thereby get a little more revenue. This will mean sheer waste of money. I am not alone in that opinion. The Editor of the *Madras Mail* in a leaderette in the issue, dated 24th February 1939, has written to the same effect on this point. He has made a very pertinent remark and I may be permitted to read a simple sentence."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I think the hon. Member may merely mention the date of the paper and proceed."

* Sri Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" In the leaderette of the *Madras Mail* of the 24th February 1939, the Editor deprecated the employment of such highly trained officers on routine work like the sale of wood-apples. They are not intended for such work. Nor is the Forest department fitted to carry on experiments in the matter of finished products, like varnish, manufactured from lac. All that the Forest department is concerned with is the production of the raw produce and the moment the raw produce is found to be marketable, the Forest department should stay its hand. The sale of the produce or the manufacture of the produce into other materials like varnish and things of that sort is for the Industries department and the Industrial Chemists; I submit it is not the function of the Forest department to indulge in these experiments. I would, therefore,

mpress on the Government, as I have done on the last occasion, ıot to fritter away the energies of the Forest department in the natter of minor products but to see that their attention is devoted o the real forest sylviculture."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has already taken 31 minutes."

* DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" One minute more, Sir. We find from this report that overseas trade in the matter of timber has been altogether neglected, as I find a 'nil' entry under the head 'overseas trade.' I would request the Hon. Minister and the Government to revive overseas trade, as that is a fruitful source of revenue, and in the past a great deal of timber, more especially ebony, rosewood, and the like had been exported from our Province to foreign countries, and very good business was being done in that direction. It would be very desirable for the Forest department to devote its attention once more for the revival of such overseas trade."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" Sir, at the very outset I must apologize for not having risen from my place earlier; but I am thankful to you, Sir, for having allowed me to speak at this time. When the practical possibilities of increasing the revenue from the forests were being discussed on the floor of this House, my hon. Friend, Mr. Varadachari, wanted to remind the House that the forest is the hidden wealth of the nation and it was the reserve wealth of the Province and without poaching upon this wealth the resources must be increased. It is a very good dictum; I agree with him, and I dare say no one on this side is fond of poaching or anything of the kind. On the other hand we want to see that the forests must yield the highest benefit they can to increase and augment the revenues of the State. As a matter of fact, we have been saying that they ought to be yielding as much as they can. Nor has it been shown to us that the thing is being tackled in a business-like manner. And that is why we speak on this cut motion, and we make suggestions to the Government to do this and that, and I hope the suggestions will be received in the spirit in which they are offered. He also made the rather ominous suggestion that where everything else was gone these reserve forests would remain. We on this side of the House want to say that everything should not go for us to appreciate this hidden treasure. Let everything remain and let this hidden treasure also yield the highest benefit it can: that is our suggestion.

" The Hon. Minister in giving figures for the last five years excepting 1936–37 and 1937–38 has said that the net surplus of the forest revenue comes to Rs. 3½ lakhs on an average, while its expenditure is Rs. 40 lakhs. Imagine, Sir, a large area of useful

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and very rich forests covering 18 thousand square miles yielding only an income of Rs. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs a year; if it is mathematically worked out, it comes to an income of half-an-anna per acre per annum. In the year 1936–37 the income was Rs. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, in 1937–38 it is Rs. $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, which increase is owing to certain retrenchments effected in the department as well as the closing down of the Forest College contemplated in the current year. It is true that by the curtailment of expenditure there is an appreciable saving. But in the report it is stated on page 4 that 'the drastic economies—which Government feel to be necessary even though they may result in some loss of efficiency—cannot fail to result in some deterioration in both the protective and financial value of the forests.' These are remarks which call for explanation. Are the Government doubtful about the value of the economies effected? Have they done these economies half-heartedly, and in their opinion are they not justified as a real saving, but only a saving of doubtful value? If so, why did the Government do it and say they felt it necessary also? This is a strange contradiction with regard to the policy of curtailment of top-heavy expenditure. I would like the Hon. Minister to be more explicit in his policy of effecting economies. Do the Government deny that the administration was not top-heavy? There is no denying the fact that Forest administration is top-heavy, and when retrenchment is thought of in every department, this top-heavy department which brings a trivial surplus of 3 to 4 lakhs on an average to the Government, is a matter which needs a critical analysis at the hands of the Government.

" These are matters on which I would like the Hon. Minister to throw some light In these circumstances I would like to know what the future policy of the Government is and also what definite attempt they have made to effect economies. It may be true that we have to look at the potential value of the forests more than their practical return. But surely the return of half-an-anna per acre per annum is something that calls for radical enquiry and for effective reform. It may be true that we should not look at forests from a dividend yielding point of view; we have to look at them from other points of view, such as prevention of erosion of soil, retention of sub-soil moisture or from the point of view of climate. I know all this; but there is a limit to the appreciation of these natural advantages. 'We cannot expect sensational returns,' says the Hon. Minister. But, Sir, I say, they must be at least mildly interesting. Surely, an income of half-an-anna per acre per annum cannot be considered as a reasonable return even by the stoutest official optimist!

" As my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, pointed out in his exhaustive speech, there are very many instances where special pay is given, allowances are given and there are unnecessary multiplication of officers. The Hon. Minister will have to see

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that such things are not done, because if economies have to be effected, they must be effected all round. There is a personal assistant appointed, which has to be seriously considered. He is an I.F.S. grade man. I cannot understand why the personal assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests should be an I.F.S. man. That is unnecessary. He is simply carrying on routine ministerial work.

"Then with regard to the Forest Engineer. That too is unnecessary. He is on the Conservator grade. His work can be easily done by an ordinary P.W.D. man of the lower grade. These are matters which I would like to place before Government for their serious consideration.

"With regard to the utilization of forest produce to the highest advantage, efforts are wanting on the part of Government in that direction. In the matter of supply of timber to the Public Works department, the Jail department and other Government departments, if there are difficulties by way of the prohibitive railway freights, the Government should see that better facilities are secured and revenues are increased in this direction. The progressive policy of the Forest department must be to make our Province self-sufficient in the matter of timber supply and prevent import of timber from abroad.

"With regard to the utilization of teakwood and pine posts for the large electrical schemes that are in the hands of the Government, the department should see that it is profitably done. In Mysore, I think, the department is running a creosote plant for the scientific treatment of wooden posts, sleepers, scantlings, etc., and I do not know whether this Government will think of having a similar plant to treat its wooden poles, etc., here. It is not right to leave this matter in the hands of private agencies, as it is likely to be a source of increasing revenue to the State.

"Sir, judicious exploitation of forest produce of every kind and its utilization to the best advantage with a view to increase the revenue of the Forest department must be the progressive endeavour of this Government. There is little use in keeping to the old standards by crossing the t's and dotting the i's of the old method. Without impairing the sylvicultural value of the forest there are immense possibilities of increasing its revenue from resources like these, which cover an area of 18,000 square miles.

"In this connexion, Sir, I wish to say a word about Mysore. As the hon. Member, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, has anticipated me, this State has got 4,000 square miles of forest and gets a net income of Rs. 10 lakhs. This shows that that State is far ahead of us in the matter of forest administration. And if we are to adopt their methods our income may be trebled or quadrupled. For, compare those 4,000 square miles producing an income of Rs. 10

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lakhs, with our 18,000 square miles producing only $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of 5-30 rupees income. The Mysore Forest department has been steadily p.m. growing and several new activities have been undertaken from time to time. In the light of the experience gained in recent years, it has been found necessary to reorganize the department not only to carry out the routine work efficiently, but also to see that the investigation of the several problems relating to the development of the forest resources is carried on on systematic lines.

"The Forest Institute at Bangalore has been doing very good work for the continuous study of technical and commercial problems in connexion with the development and utilization of the various forest resources of the State. Two junior officers of the Forest department who have had extensive training in foreign countries are carrying on very good work in a very short period. I hear that a great deal of work has been carried out of much utility and commercial importance.

"Forest produce that had been going to waste for a long time has been converted into very good and useful articles and I have heard, Sir, and I have read in newspapers of the very useful work done there, e.g., mathematical instruments are made of bamboos, which attracted great attention during a recent exhibition that was held there. I strongly commend to the notice of this Government a systematic development of this forest utilization policy. The present policy adopted by the Government is very unsound, inadequate and unsatisfactory. I say so, because I find that a systematic attempt is not made to exploit the produce of the forest and put it on a commercial and industrial basis. The criminal neglect of the forest capital of this Province has been great and I hope that this Government will be able to put an end to that loss and cure that great defect.

"Sir, as a last word I have to say that the future policy of this Forest department must be one of research. The spirit of research is very much wanting in this department. Nobody has given any serious attention to this question of research. 'Research' should be the watchward of the forester and the Forest department. The Government will have to recognize this fact and organize their research methods and develop research measures immediately. Depending upon one single Dehra Dun institute, which is somewhere at the foot of the Himalayas and which is the only institute for the whole of India, is not good and I think it is indispensable that we must organize as a matter of course our own research institute so that the full exploitation of the commercial possibilities of timber which is now lying unclassified in the forests might be known and their commercial importance fully realized so that our forests might be made to yield better revenue. The Government are the single individual owner of such forest

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wealth and they cannot live blindly without having the great economic advantage of research that is necessary in the development of forest revenue. Now, Sir, we have closed the Forest College. I think the Forest College buildings might be used as a start for a research institute for Madras. This research institute might be started with a few well-trained men who could make investigations, and carry on research. Of course, we have to set apart a small amount of money; it will not be an extravagance but an investment. I strongly commend this proposition for the consideration of the Government. I only hope that this suggestion of mine will have the serious consideration of the Government and that all the speeches on this cut motion will not end as a cry in the wilderness."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Mr. Speaker, the previous speakers have very exhaustively dealt with all the points that are to be taken on the Demand. I do not have much to speak. But the Hon. Minister for Agriculture at the very outset gave us in his speech very good points for our thought, and he told us that agricultural implements for the use of the agriculturist in the rural parts have been kept in depots in various parts of the country. Sir, I come from the Kurnool district where the Nallamalai forests are in abundance from where some of these implements can easily be got for the agriculturists. To my knowledge I can recall only very few depots in the whole district, nay only two or three centres, where such depots are kept for the use of the agriculturists. I would plead, Sir, that it is very difficult for the agriculturists to go all the way, 30 or 40 miles to buy his agricultural implements. I, therefore, suggest that in every taluk headquarters, or even in every firka headquarters, all the necessary agricultural implements may be stocked by the Forest department for the use of the agriculturist.

" Coming to another point raised by the Hon. Minister for Agriculture, I would like to say a word about the retrenchment that has been effected in the Kurnool district. He said that one division has been taken away. Certainly a fairly good amount of money must have been saved by this measure. Also from the report, Sir, we learn that the working plan was also abolished. The whole report shows that there is too much of retrenchment everywhere. Having saved so much money, the Government have not shown in any other place, how that money is going to be utilized for the improvement of the forests. It is high time, Sir, that the Government called a halt to this retrenchment and diverted their attention to develop the forest resources with greater enthusiasm and vigour. I would humbly suggest to this Government the extension of the working plan system, secondly, the wider use of known products, thirdly, the possible discovery of new products and fourthly, the steady and extensive development of industries dependent on the forests which will be of great benefit to the

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Government as well as to the people. Sir, coming as I do from the central districts which are often visited by famines, I am very much concerned about this. The only case in which Nature has been merciful to us is in giving us the Nallamalai forests. Having such a big forest in our district we are at a loss to think that the people are not at all benefited by the forests. I therefore urge that a sound and wise policy will relieve to a large extent the misery of the poor in the district.

" Now, Sir, coming to the last point I would like to say a word about the forest panchayats. The forest panchayat is, I think, a futile source of waste at present. They were first constituted some years ago, Sir, wherever there were influential people in the mufassal supporting the Government. These influential men became presidents of these panchayats and managed the whole show with their party men. Under these panchayats more harm is done to the forests and consequently to the people.

(At this stage the Deputy Speaker, Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi, took the Chair.)

" Valuable trees are cut off indiscriminately. Young ones are not allowed to grow. I, therefore, very strongly feel that the importance of saving valuable trees must be stressed on the panchayats and the breach of this must be punished. In order to improve the panchayats I would suggest that more panchayat deputy tahsildars be appointed to look after these forests."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am thankful to members who have given some useful suggestions for the improvement of the Forest administration.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan, who started the debate from the Opposition brought forward certain points. He said that the Government have rightly started retrenchment in the department. The matter of retrenchment in the Forest department is not a subject that has been taken up recently. It has been in the Secretariat for more than fifteen years. The very abolition of the Forest College has been one of the subjects that have been debated not only in this Assembly, but even in the previous Council. I know, as a matter of fact, that at one time, my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, said that the Forest College was a white elephant. It is not the desire or the ambition of the present Government to cut away useful institutions. But facts and figures have proved that we can do without a Forest College in our Province. Those of the hon. Members who have known the existence of a beautiful and instructive college at Dehra Dun where officers for the Forest department are trained to-day, would simply fall into line and appreciate the efforts made by this Government.

"I may also inform the House, through you, Madam, that in the present year we have none of our students studying in the Forest College. That itself shows whether there is a necessity for conducting a Forest College in our Province. Last year there was a Forest Conference in Delhi opened by His Excellency the Viceroy who in his speech pointed out that there must be a college which could serve all the provinces. As a matter of fact myself and the Chief Conservator of Forests have had to go to Dehra Dun and examine for ourselves whether our Province will be properly served by sending our students there and by abolishing our own Forest College. I may say that we were fully convinced that the Imperial Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun, the Forest College and the Foresters' College in Dehra Dun will give our students ample opportunities to make themselves first-class forest officers. Moreover the Government of India have spent several crores of rupees in fully equipping the various departments connected with forestry in Dehra Dun. So I may tell the House that we need not have any anxiety over the abolition of the Forest College.

-45 p.m. "Secondly, some of my hon. Friends asked whether the retrenchment that has been so far effected will be in the interests of our Government and the Province at large. I may say immediately, Madam, that we are fully equipped for the Forest Service till 1941 and I do not think that we will be requiring any more officers till 1942. As one who is in charge of the Forest portfolio I can say without fear of contradiction that at present our service is more than what is required. This has given us anxious time and we fully investigated into the whole matter, and as a result thereof it has been possible to retrench six men in the Madras Provincial Service and recommend to the Secretary of State to retrench fifteen I.F.S. men. The difficulty that we could not straightaway reduce the fifteen I.F.S. people is the outcome of the Government of India Act, 1935, whereby the Provincial Ministers are not given power straightaway to retrench I.F.S. men.

"Some of the members, especially my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, said that disforestation in the district of Chingleput is not desirable. I may tell him that as a result of the Forest Conference held in Delhi, it was decided by the Ministers of the various Provinces that wherever there is large disforestation either the Minister or the head of the department shall examine fully before disforestation. I may assure my hon. Friend that disforestation of over 50 acres has been examined by me before sanctioning it. My hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, particularly drew my attention to the place that was disforested from the reserved forest in Wenlock Downs. Unfortunately I am afraid that my friend has not studied the boundaries of Wenlock Downs. Coming as I do from the Nilgiris, I can say that we have

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not touched an inch of land from Wenlock Downs which form one of the important amenities in the Nilgiris for people of that station and others who come from outside that district. Assignment of about 31 acres in the Wenlock Downs is not a subject taken up by us but it has been a subject that has been pending in the file in the Secretariat during the last three years. I personally visited the spot which adjoined a milkmen village, Odasholai and the land had to be disforested for the use of the Harijans and some other landless people of that locality. But I may tell you that by this sanction the Government are not intending to disforest the whole of Wenlock Downs and give them away to people who wish to cultivate.

" Mr. Appadurai Pillai said that the forest officials are harsh on cultivators who till recently allowed the cattle to go into the forest either for graziug or for other facilities, for removing fuel and other things. As a department which is having a very small subordinate staff and which has to cover a very big field of supervision, if such things are allowed to go on, the result will be very adverse for the forests. He also referred to the fact that there must be co-ordination between other departments and the Forest department.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

" I may tell him, Mr. Speaker, that both the Forest department and the Industries department are working together, as far as possible in regard to raw material that may be got from the forests.

" My friend, Mr. Hussain, referred to certain facilities required by the cultivators of South Kanara. I may tell him that wherever possible facilities are afforded to cultivators not only in South Kanara but in other districts as well where forests lie very near cultivated land.

" Some of the points raised by my hon. Friends, Mr. Reid and Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, have been already touched by my friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachariar. Speaking on the use of charcoal, Mr. Reid said that the Forest department must rise to the occasiou and see that charcoal is supplied in large quantities. As a matter of fact, we have already advised the Chief Conservator of Forests to try charcoal gas for motor vehicles. To test whether it will be possible to run such vehicles and whether it will be cheaper, I have myself been to Tuticorin and ridden in a motor bus that was driven with charcoal gas. It is only a matter of time before we could do much. But, I may assure him that all facilities are given to the contractors and I know, as a matter of fact, that these contractors are producing the whole charcoal for supply to the public.

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"As regards soft wood also, instructions have already been issued to the Chief Conservator of Forests to find out how far the department could help in this matter. It was also said that fruit cultivation must also be taken up in the Forest department. On my visit to Walyar I found a large section of the hill tribes known as 'Irulars' who were without employment. As a matter of fact, the Government have already instructed the District Forest Officer to open a small orange nursery and have allotted Rs. 100 to create a small nursery so that these people may carry on orange plantation in that area. I may also inform the House that in the Forest department we have got the working plan section, which has already gone through the whole forest area and has prepared plans as to how to work these forests and we are carrying on those working plans, and I do not think it will be advisable in the interest of the forests to deviate from the working plan just to make more money from forests.

"Mr. Reid also suggested that there must be a special officer for advertising with a view to bring more profit to the Forest department. I may tell him that there are two officers, the Utilization Officer and the Assistant Utilization Officer. The primary duty of these two officers is to advertise as far as possible and see how best we can get revenue for this department."

MR. D. M. REID:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I said that more money ought to be given to these officers for this purpose."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"I may tell him, Sir, that the money required for the purpose has already been given and has already been provided in the Budget. He referred also to the necessity of making more roads to give conveyance facilities in the forests. This matter has already engaged the attention of the Government and from the Administration Reports that have been placed in the hands of hon. Members they will find that bridges have been constructed and there are bridges under construction which will give more facilities to exploiting places, which have not hitherto been worked. In the Administration Reports there is a bridge under construction known as Nedungayam bridge. I think it has now been completed. It was taken up under the guidance of the late engineer, Mr. Dawson. This bridge is going to give facility to open a very big forest area which was not hitherto touched.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, drew attention to the enormous revenue made by the Mysore Government as compared with the rest of the whole Province. But, unfortunately, he has forgotten that Mysore, which has the largest sandalwood plantations, lies in the Deccan plateau, which is a favourable spot for the growth of sandalwood. Unfortunately, the forests

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in our Province do not entirely lie in the direction of the plateau but only a very small portion of it comes under that plateau. Moreover electricity that is got so cheap in Mysore is also responsible for the utilization of the various raw materials in Mysore.

" He referred to the innumerable fires that have been taking place in the forests. He also pointed out that about 1,200 cases of fires were not detected by the Forest department. I have only to say that it is for this very reason that the Government would not do away with the entire grazing fees. Several members said that other Provinces have come forward and entirely abolished grazing fees. This very mischief is caused by those grazers who come into the forests. He himself said that in 18,000 square miles of forests, with the small subordinate staff of watchers and guards it is not possible to detect all the fires that take place in the forests. But I may tell him that every precaution is taken to cut fire-paths wherever necessary and all the subordinates have strict instructions to see how far these fires could be stopped and also to detect such mischief-makers.

" Another point he touched is about the research on spike disease at Denkanikota. He said that we are engaging only a Ranger. I may tell him that the ranger is a man with full knowledge in this matter and research is a thing that should not be disturbed by placing another man over the man who has been doing this research for several years. Officers in the department have accepted that this particular ranger who is in charge of the spike disease is an able man, and his name has recently been recommended by the head of the department to Dehra Dun for some other research and also to Ranchi. I may also tell him that above him there is a Sericulturist, Mr. Griffith, by name, who also supervises the work done by this ranger. I myself went to 6 p.m. the very research institute and saw for myself what has been happening for the last twenty years. I also was wondering whether it will be advisable in the interests of Government to spend such large amounts of money over this spike business. But I came to the conclusion that it is necessary because they have controlled the disease and located the insect pests, and they say it is time that they could succeed in this. It is not only our Government that have taken part in this research, but I may tell him that even the Mysore Government, who have got a big sandalwood plantation, are spending large amounts of money to find out a remedy for the same.

" He also said that we are providing only for a small acreage to be brought under casuarina and cashewnut plants. I have to tell him that we are providing for 200 acres per year, because there is already a certain amount of plantation of this kind and wherever this could be profitably done, we are trying to do what we

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can in this direction. Moreover, in the matter of disforestation, we are very particular that regular forests are not at all touched; only such forests which come under the shrub jungle are disforested for assignment for beneficial purposes.

" One other point he touched was that the department should not undertake the collection of minor forest produce or carry on with this ascu treatment for poles. I may tell him one instance. In the Anamalais, a few years ago, the collection of minor forest produce was given to certain people for Rs. 500 and the agreement was to run for ten years. On personal inspection by myself and some other Hon. Ministers, we found that the amount contracted was very small and we tried to see whether the agreement could be cancelled. But on an examination we found that the agreement was for ten years; we feel that such agreements did not deserve encouragement. Moreover, going through the figures of revenue that the minor forest produce brings in in other districts, I find that the revenue is so small that in the interests of revenue, I think, there must be a change. As regards the ascu treatment— and my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, also referred to the creosote treatment of poles in Mysore—of course it has taken many months for the Forest department to convince other departments that poles treated by the ascu plant are quite as strong as the one treated by the creosote process. As I have already pointed out in the Administration Report and also in the opening speech, thousands of poles have been treated by the department and have been supplied to the Public Works department. I may tell my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, that we have not lost sight of this matter and we have been trying that all the departments that come under the Government must go to the Forest department to take their requirements in the matter of timber.

" He pointed out a certain passage in the Administration Report. The reference by the Chief Conservator to the drastic economies proposed is an expression of opinion which could have been avoided in the report. The Government believe that the department is overstaffed and they do not believe that there will be any deterioration as a result of economies. Of course, they have taken great care to see whether, by retrenchment, there will be damage to the forest interests and have come to the conclusion that whatever they do will be done in the interests of the Forest department.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, also complained that there is not much of revenue from our Forest department. But I must only tell him that the figures that we have already placed before this House have given an indication that the revenue side is on the increase during the last three years, and with what we

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have done just now by way of retrenchment and also in the way of exploiting the forest, it is bound to produce better revenue in years to come. But at the same time I must say that the growth of a tree is not a thing which could be achieved in a day or two. We have dumped a lot of money in the creation of teak forests. But unfortunately the defoliation caused by an insect has told to some extent on certain plantations. Recently a parasite has been brought from Burma and they are trying whether defoliation can be got over by introduction of this parasite. Research has already been made even in Dehra Dun as to whether we can get over this trouble.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, suggested that the Forest College must be utilized as a research institute. When once he says that there is very little profit or revenue from the Forest department, he suggests the establishment of a research institute. I must tell him that Government will give consideration to both points, whether it is necessary to increase the revenue side of the Forest department or to spend money on scientific research, if the latter is really necessary. But, as it is, I think that the small research that is being carried on in Denkanikota will prove of much use to the department concerned.

"My friend, Mr. Samuel, referred to the meagre depots that have been established in his district for giving timber for agricultural implements. The object of Government is to create as many depots as possible not only in Kurnool but also in all other districts, but we must know whether people really wish to buy these things and whether they could guarantee against pilferage from the forests. He also asks what the Government intend to do with the money that is got by retrenchment. I have only to tell him that part of it is utilized in the shape of making roads, for plantations, both fuel and timber, and conservancy. He also feared that the Kurnool forest is a big one and it may be necessary to reduce its extent. But I may tell him that Kurnool is a big grazing district and gives ample work for many people, and as such it is not the intention of Government to reduce the forest area there.

"I think, Mr. Speaker, I have tried to answer the various points that have been touched by hon. Members and if there are any points which I have not touched, I may assure the House that they will receive the consideration of Government. With these few remarks, I request the hon. Member to withdraw the cut motion."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the lucid statements made by the Hon. Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary, I withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION.

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,58,300 under Demand V—Registration.*' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan does not want to move his cut motion."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" No, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is why you are sitting here on this side (turning to the Ministerialist benches)."

* SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name which is as follows:—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 29,58,300 *for Registration by Rs.* 100 (to discuss the general policy of the Government).'

" My object in moving this cut motion is to impress upon the Government the advisability of reverting to the old rate of registration fees. The enhancement effected on 1st January 1938 and in force since has failed to yield the expected income. In the Budget Memorandum it is pointed out that the fall in the number of registrations during the current official year is the 'result of the depression in trade relating to agricultural produce and the tightness of the money market.' I have quoted the very words of the official document. I am glad the Government realize that people are suffering on account of trade depression and tightness of the money market. When they have been so suffering it is not proper to raise the rate of the registration fees. The Government will therefore do well to go back to the old rate. In days gone by, no registration fee was levied on transactions of ryots with co-operative societies nor were encumbrance certificates required to be produced. Now the ryot who borrows from a co-operative society is required to produce an encumbrance certificate and also pay registration fee at half the usual rate. Suppose a ryot borrows Rs. 200 from a co-operative society; he has to spend Rs. 4 on the encumbrance certificate and Rs. 2 on registration and Rs. 20 on shares. He actually gets Rs. 174 only at the moment. If he mortgages one piece of land or several pieces of land, it will do if he produces a single encumbrance certificate. If he mortgages houses, he will have to produce as many encumbrance certificates as there are houses. These

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fees work a great hardship on the farmers, and should be abolished forthwith. So long as the co-operative movement was in its infancy, in order to foster it and make it popular, no registration fees were required to be paid. Now that the movement has come to stay and has the capacity for automatic progress, the ryots are called upon to pay. Reason requires that the order should have been the reverse; that is to say, it would have been proper to levy registration fees when the movement was in its formative period and now when it is sound and progressing the ryots deserve to be given relief. I have just one more point to urge.

"In the Registration department there are many clerks who have put in ten to fifteen years of service, who have passed the necessary special examinations qualifying them to hold the post of sub-registrars and who look forward to being appointed to such posts when vacancies arise. It should be the policy of the Government to give promotions to such clerks. That is their moral obligation; but instead of doing so, the Government have been recruiting hands from outside for the posts of sub-registrars. This is unfair to the clerks concerned and it will not conduce to the efficiency of the department to recruit comparatively new persons. I hope the Government will address itself to this question, which is causing heart-burning to many clerks who have served the department loyally for many years and redress their grievances. With these few words I move the cut motion standing in my name." 6-1 p.m.

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the token cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu. I do not intend to criticize the administration of this department because we know that this department is intended for rendering utility services to the people of the Province. It is not at all a commercial department. As we can see from the figures, the revenue and expenditure almost balance themselves. We have, in administering this department, to see that every convenience is provided to the public including the people in the rural areas. From this point of view, I find that this department has been working very efficiently. In the central establishment and in the district establishments I find that, as far as possible, efficiency is taken as the standard for making not only promotions but also appointments. But, Sir, I should say that in this matter some greater attention may be paid as far as possible in the case of the minority communities. No doubt the application of the communal Government Order was brought into force in this department only about a year ago. Since then I find that, as far as possible, the application of this communal rotation rule has been made in proper cases, but, Sir, in the case of certain minority communities including the Muslims, I must

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say that some relaxation will have to be shown. You cannot expect the same standard of efficiency among the members of the Muslim and other minority communities and backward classes. Therefore I would like to say that while efficiency is of course to be taken into consideration, it is qualification that is to be taken into consideration in a greater degree. No doubt when you find the requisite qualifications in a member of the minority community, I think that preference must be given to him first. It would be very good if this rule or some sort of convention is established in administering this department in the matter of recruitment.

"Sir, this department is working efficiently and I may say that the credit for that must go to the head of the department who has been serving this Province so zealously in the matter of establishing not only registration offices wherever they are required, but also in the matter of rendering all possible service to the people of the rural areas. But, Sir, if my information is correct, in some parts of the Province especially in Malabar, there appears to be a superfluity of offices. I am told that there are a very large number of offices in Malabar and that such a large number might not be quite essential. I understand further that one or two offices have practically no work at all. I do not mean to say that their number should be reduced; on the other hand, there may be need for increasing their number so that facilities may be made available in the interior parts. Sir, in such cases the offices which have no work may be shifted from their present location to other areas where there may be greater need. Sir, I do not want on this occasion to say that in this department there has not been enough representation for the Muslims. As the communal Government Order has been in force in this department for the last one year, we have to wait and see what its effect will be. Sir, when we have got such a sympathetic and able Inspector-General in this department we may naturally hope that due and proper representation will be given to all communities in the various branches of the department."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Sir, with reference to this Demand I wish to make one or two observations.

"My first observation is with reference to the system of photo-copying of documents. I understand that at present in Malabar they have abolished this system, but that it is still lingering in Madras and Chingleput. I would request the Hon. Minister to look into this matter and see that photo-copying of documents in these two places is aoblished as early as possible.

"I wish next to say a few words with reference to the sub-offices. There is a strong rumour that some of the sub-offices are going to be abolished. If the Ministry is going to resort to this

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plan, I am afraid it will entail a great deal of hardship to the poor ryots in the village parts. I would suggest to the Ministry to increase the sub-offices rather than reduce their number. It does not matter if they raise the registration fee a little bit. I understand that already the Ministry is inclined to exempt documents below Rs. 200. That will help the poor man indeed.

" Then, Sir, with reference to the minority community representation to which the previous speaker referred, I may say I also belong to a minority community. In this department I have been observing its administration by the present Inspector-General. I am inclined to say that the minorities are safe in his hands. The present Inspector-General has been taking care of the minority representation. He is a very conscious officer and he appreciates merit even among the minority communities. All praise to him. He has also during his term of office raised the status of the department to a very great extent. He has made it efficient, useful and also pure. His subordinates have no cause for any apprehension regarding their claims and the best part of the Inspector-General is that he is accessible to all people, from the highest subordinate to the lowest and to the public. That ought to be the qualification of a good administrator."

* " THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Sir, as regards the request of the hon. Member, Mr. M. C. Rajah, that the photo system should be abolished, I agree to do so when it is found that this system also is a losing concern. We have abolished the other ones when we found that they were resulting in debit. I do not think I need say anything more on that point.

" As regards the reduction of the registration fees, the Government are anxious to do all that is necessary to give relief to the people. This department is costing us over Rs. 29 lakhs excluding pensions. When we collect and spend such a huge amount for this establishment, the relief afforded must be commensurate with the amount paid by the people. To-day, the number of offices does not exceed 589. This is the figure for 1937. In 1934 it was 606; in 1931 it was 602; in 1928 it was 588 and in 1930 it was 500. The number of offices being small and the amount spent being big, we have carefully to consider not only how best relief could be extended with regard to the registration of documents at the 589 centres, but we have also got to see that these offices are spread 6-
over a larger number of villages. Over 70,000 villages we have p.
got in this Presidency. Real relief can reach them only when we can put forth a scheme under which the villagers of each village or group of villages can readily get through this registration work without leaving their villages. We have worked out to some extent as to how this may become possible. Roughly estimated, with an additional sum of over Rs. 50,000 in addition

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to what we are now collecting and spending it may become possible to have this registration work done in the village units, so that the vast number of these 70,000 villages will get the necessary relief. And this is dependent upon some other legislation and it will become part of it in due course after examination and testing. Therefore, the reduction of registration fees will not certainly help the large number of people in the country immediately. If by reducing the registration fees it is possible to extend the scope of relief to a large number of people, one can understand it.

"I should have expected hon. Members to raise the point with regard to the spread of these offices all over the country. Our minds have not been running in that direction, because we have been used to a particular system. It did not matter to us and it does not matter how these people are to go to distant centres to get their documents registered. I am one of those who have known these things at close quarters from the bottom to the top. It is a painful thing to consider that, after spending 30 lakhs of rupees and collecting 30 lakhs of rupees from the people, there should be only 589 offices to which these people have to go to get their documents registered. We are thinking that the existence of these 500 and odd offices would give relief to all the people, but I would point out that it would give relief only to a few who could afford to go to such centres, and not to a large number of people. I say it is the right of the latter class of people that they should have facilities in their own places to have their things done, especially when they are paying tax in some form or another to the Government to enable the Government to carry on their administration. Unfortunately in our country the system that has been built up is one that cannot be amended or modified very easily. The departments of the Government have become so many, and we, ten Ministers here, for the sake of convenience and for having work for all of us, have to divide the subjects into ten groups. I am called the Revenue Minister. My Hon. Colleague, Mr. Yakub Hasan, is called the Public Works Minister. My Hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Pillai is called the Agricultural Minister. The Revenue Department, the Public Works Department, in so far as it relates to the Irrigation department, and the Agricultural department which is part and parcel of land—all these should constitute the Revenue Department and these three departments should be under the Revenue Minister as a matter of fact. Now it is a mere division for the sake of convenience. So unless there is sufficient co-ordination between these three departments, the work will not progress. I say that it is not only between these three departments there should be co-ordination in the matter of working, but there should also be co-ordination between all the ten Ministers in the matter of working their respective departments. It must

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work like a machine, so that if the button is pressed at one end, any kind of work or any kind of plan should be put into execution by any one department in the district, or the taluk, or the village, without any hitch between that department and the other departments. As the departments have been functioning now, they have developed a habit of thinking that each department is an autonomous unit in itself. Even if the Ministers could agree on particular points, those who are in charge of the departments are not able to realize sometimes the importance of such an agreement between the Ministers. I have felt during the last 18 or 20 months of our work and after going through country parts, that there is lack of co-ordination between the various departments.

"What is this Registration department? Where is the necessity for a separate Registration department? When the Revenue Department is entrusted with the work of the various other departments, that department should, as a matter of fact, attend to the Registration work also. The village officers and the village panchayats, wherever the latter could be constituted, should be in charge of the Registration department. As a matter of fact, in every village, the village panchayat or the village officer may be asked to receive a document that has got to be registered together with four or five copies of the same. The village officer or the village panchayat may, after entering the document in their registers, send one of the copies which have been given to them to the nearest taluk office and the other to the Collector's office. After one of the copies had reached the Collector's office and the same entered and filed in the registers of the Collector's office, the document becomes a record-of-rights for the party concerned. So, where is the trouble about this? Sir, every department now-a-days is a separate department and we are spending large sums of monies over the establishment without any real benefit to the people. There must be sufficient relief given to the people who are called upon to pay their taxes. Any reform that we undertake should be such as would give relief not only to 589 centres but to thousands of villages—5,000 village centres—even if it should cost Rs. 50,000 more.

"The other matters that have been referred to are all of minor importance. Hon. Members will, therefore, forgive me if I do not deal with them at great length. There are very many things that should be attended to in regard to this matter. The communal Government Order has been extended again and complaints are made about the distribution of appointments. I think I should not take up the time of the House on that because the Hon. the Prime Minister is dealing with that question. I request the hon. Member to withdraw his cut motion and I hope the House will pass this Demand without any cut."

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SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"I withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VI—MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS.

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,83,600 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Acts.*'"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg to move the following token cut motion—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,83,600 for Motor Vehicles Acts by Rs. 100* (to criticize the administration of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act).'

"Mr. Speaker, if there is one department of Government which can be allowed to expand, it is this department which controls the motor industry in this Province. In this Province as in other Provinces in this country, we have known that motor transport and motor industry have been making rapid strides and the Government have regarded this industry as a source of revenue; not only the Government but even the local bodies thought that this was a very fruitful source of revenue and from time to time, in order to augment their resources, they enhanced their licence
6-45 p.m. fees and increased their taxes. In spite of this policy on the part of the Government and the local bodies, this industry improved and came to stay simply because the world was advancing with the times and this country endeavoured to move along with other civilized countries of the world. The persons who for want of any other occupation took up the business of running lorries and buses had to meet with many obstacles apart from the handicaps to which they were subjected by the increasing taxation levied by the Government and the local bodies. A number of our countrymen took to this business; and being new to this profession and subjected to many handicaps, they went out of business. Then relays of them came into the field and they also had to go out of the field in their turn as financial wrecks. The control over the competition was not effective, and on account of that and other causes which I have already mentioned, it was not possible for our countrymen to make this profession profitable. If it had been possible for our countrymen to find better employment elsewhere, I can aver without any fear of contradiction that no Indian would have come forward to engage in this trade knowing full well that it was not a profitable business. But as they had no other business which was worth while, taking up, they put themselves wholeheartedly into this business believing that at some

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time or other they would be able to make it profitable. Many years passed by in this manner. But on account not only of the knowledge which they acquired in the process but also of the gradual improvement in the control that was exercised by the Government and the consolidation of all the taxes, it was possible for some of the people engaged in this trade to come to a stage when they could find this trade not so disastrous to themselves as it used to be. Even then, they were not free to carry on their business as other people are free to carry on their business in other directions on account of the fact that taxation was heavy and that in many parts of the Province they had to meet with competition from other means of transport. The buses which carried passengers and the lorries which carried goods had to meet with competition from the railways, and this competition was mainly responsible for reducing the little profit that there was in this trade. I am glad to say, Sir, that in different parts of the Province on account of the work of the Traffic Control Boards set up under the recent Act, there is greater control over the services so that the people engaged in this business are in a position to make both ends meet; and if they are allowed to continue in this business a little longer, they will be able to make some profit from it.

"But when they have reached this stage, a much worse calamity is confronting them and that is due to the two impending disasters which they will have to face very soon. So far as the City is concerned, a number of our countrymen who were making their living by this business have been gradually deprived of their means of livelihood by the entry of monopolists in this field, possibly with the concurrence of the Government. The monopolists are gradually taking up this business into their hands and they are depriving these poor people of their means of livelihood. The Government will certainly be doing a great wrong if they allow these monopolists to take over the whole business and thereby deprive the poor people of their means of livelihood. In addition to the monopolists, half-a-dozen district boards in this Presidency have come forward to take up this business. If they had known what this business really meant and that it was not a profitable one, they would not have come forward to take it up. I know there are certain exceptions. For instance, the bus transport service in Coimbatore has been a paying proposition. But even in that district it is not everywhere that it has been paying. It is only in some parts of the district that it is paying on account of their organization and combination. Therefore, if that district is taken as an example by other districts, I am afraid the Government and the district boards will be making a great mistake, for the conditions in the Coimbatore district do not prevail in the other districts also. Let us take for instance the Ceded districts. How can anybody compare the conditions in Coimbatore with the conditions in the Ceded districts? It will be a great

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mistake if any district board in the Ceded districts or in Guntur takes up the motor transport business with a view to make any profit out of it. The Government and the district boards should realize that whereas the individual motor bus or lorry owner pays his personal attention to the business and gives his supervision almost free for the pittance which he gets at the end of the month, if the business is taken over by a district board, the board will have to incur supervision charges and various other kinds of charges, with the result that it will be found that ultimately the board will be a loser. Not only will the district board be a loser but in the meantime a number of people will have lost their means of livelihood. There are not many professions open to our people. The number is limited. The monopolization of services which takes place in other parts of the world which are more prosperous than ourselves, cannot be copied by us so soon. We are not as prosperous as those countries. Our people do not have numerous professions to resort to, so that if one business is taken over by the Government or a local body, the people engaged therein can take to other avocations. A large number of people will be deprived of their legitimate occupations if the transport services are taken over either by the Government or the local bodies or independent monopolists. For God's sake do not make the mistake of copying things blindly from countries which are very differently situated from our country. First of all examine the accounts of the bus and lorry owners and find out whether they are really making such a large amount of profit as will enable you to take up the services If the district board of Cuddapah, or Kurnool or Anantapur, takes up this service, I can tell you Mr. Speaker, that they cannot make even Rs. 500 at the end of the year from all the motor services which they may run in their districts. Are they going to take over these services for the sake of a pittance of Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000? Will these small sums go a long way to increase the resources of the district boards? You know, Sir, what an amount of injury they will be causing to the large number of people engaged in this trade. Therefore, Sir, if the Government are thinking of handing over these services to monopolists or district boards, let them first examine the question thoroughly. If the Government are anxious to do it, let them do it on a co-operative basis, by making the people engaged in the business partners in the business. Let them not drive these people out of the business. The boards may take their buses and lorries and make them share-holders and give them part of the profit. These people will put the boards in the way, help them in the management of the business and even enable them to earn some profit if it is possible to do so. But if they are going to do the thing without the help of the people who have been engaged in this trade all along, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that they will not be able to make any profit. I hope the Hon. the Minister in charge of the subject and the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration will go into the question thoroughly and not take a leap in the dark."

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* MR. D. M. REID:—"Sir, the chief objection to the Government's policy, or if I may so put it, lack of any clear policy, is that the Government have not in any real sense co-ordinated the decisions of the traffic boards as regards the operation of motor transport. As an example, I would cite the recent action of the Coimbatore Traffic Board, in issuing a statement that no permits would be issued for lorries in the district area, without any reason being assigned. Now, when the Motor Vehicles Act was first brought into force and the Madras Traffic Control Board was introduced, I think in February 1938, by the Hon. the Prime Minister, the object underlying them was stated to be to unify the control of motor transport and to see that the control was vested in a single authority, and that authority would in the course of its duties exercise its powers subject to certain safeguards. This object seemed to be clear and laudable and would, it was anticipated, be generally proved. Unfortunately, the position now is that that object has hardly been justified in practice and the working of the Act for over one year appears to show an entire lack of real co-ordination or a definite policy with regard to motor transport. Now, to cite one instance: as regards the designs for motor bodies, the Road Traffic Boards of Kistna and West Godavari insist on a semi-saloon type of body, whereas some District Superintendents of Police seem to have no objection to an open type of body. Such differing view-points can only cause confusion among those who deal in the motor trade. And again, there is a natural apprehension as to what might happen to any policy when even in regard to the matter of bodies, opinions differ so widely. Now, under section 149 of the Motor Vehicles Rules, one other point to be considered by the Traffic Board in granting a permit either for a bus or for a lorry is that it should satisfy itself that the existing means of transport are not either adequate or reasonable to meet the public demand. This clause has given to the Road Traffic Board such wide powers as even to enable them to stop the issue of permits for temporary periods. Now, the Coimbatore Traffic Board has recently issued a notice stopping the issue of permits until further notice. Throughout the Presidency in the different districts, no one knows when that may happen. The state of apprehension in this respect, I hope the Government will realize, is very serious. Let us look at the figures for the Presidency. The figures for buses and lorries in the Madras Presidency for 1938 as compared with those for 1937, show a reduction of 17·2 per cent as compared with an increase of 13·5 per cent in the Bombay Presidency. Now, it may not be necessary or right, for pure argument's sake, that buses and lorries should be increased. But if we grant that the industrial development of the country is the one thing which will lead to the greater wealth of the individual, we must indeed believe also in the development and the facilitation of transport and the encouragement of greater transport. Therefore, we must view with apprehension such a striking reduction as 17·2 per cent in these days of advancement. 7 p.m.

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" Now again, Mr. Speaker, there is general unhappiness about the manner in which applications for permits are dealt with by both the Central and the District Traffic Boards, in what appears to be a definitely unsympathetic attitude towards applicants for permits for lorries. Many of them are poor men, small men, doing their best to earn a livelihood in these difficult days, and as Mr. Hameed Khan put forward just now, facing financial stress and difficulty. It is very hard that Government should put every kind of difficulty in their way of getting a livelihood. In the case of many an application for extension of the validity of a permit, the Central Road Traffic Board asks the applicant to show cause why he should not carry the goods by rail instead of by lorry—a naturally difficult thing to do particularly when he has not yet run his lorry, when he has not yet worked out his expenses which can only be put to test in practice. Unless he is given a chance to run a lorry and see what he can do with it, he cannot, placed as he is, but find it very difficult to meet this kind of argument; and he is put to great trouble to find some men to make out his case. It is just like appearing before a court of law.

" Another point which I must stress, Mr. Speaker, is the lack of a definite policy on the part of the Government on the question of district boards taking over bus-routes, on the ground that they have thoughts of running bus services themselves. This was touched upon by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, and I should like to stress this very strongly indeed. Indeed, this question is one which is often discussed in legislative bodies—not only in parliaments but in many other institutions—as to the wisdom or otherwise of the Government or public bodies running industrial enterprises. I think we can fairly say, without prejudice, that the odds are against both efficient and inexpensive running. That essential motive for efficiency and economy is absent. No business can be made a real success unless the proprietors or the board are constantly and personally watching expenditure and income and are interested in the results of the enterprise. I admit that in an ideal world—we should always take the greatest trouble over whatever falls to us, whether the incentive of personal gain is there or not. By my definite experience in life—and I would add that I am an idealist and will remain so—I know that unless the motive of profit is there, efficiency invariably is lacking and the organization is run much more expensively than it would be otherwise; and therefore, those who stand to benefit by the use of that service are penalized. Books have been written on that subject, economists have talked about it, and I am pretty sure that the Hon. the Minister himself would make an excellent speech on the lines of what I have said. I am sure he will have excellent ideas to give on efficiency; but he is now a Member of Government and must support their policy—I understand that. Now, Sir, the State, I may say, will not be an ideal bus-owner,

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nor will the district boards. I believe that so far only one district board has taken over or is seriously trying this experiment, and I believe I am correct in saying that already it is by no means an unqualified success. It is needless for me to describe the hardships which such a procedure involves with regard to all those who previously were engaged in that business. If this idea extends, how many poor men, middle classmen, honest citizens of this Presidency, may not find themselves divested of their entire means of livelihood because their district board has decided to run the motor transport in their district? What can we call this? What can any fair man call such a procedure? He would call it expropriation without compensation; and that is a principle over which peoples all the world over have burst into revolution. In these days, expropriation without compensation will make the mass minds of any people flare up against the authorities. These are strong words; but I do not suppose any one will shut his eyes to the realities of the situation. And the criticism of the Government would be very strong, very definite and very unhappy.

"Another point to be considered in this connexion is that if such services are to be run by district boards, they will inevitably immediately become a sort of monopoly. There is an idea in men's minds that monopolies are not good things. Eventually in commerce, in the world's industrial organizations, monopolies of all kinds fail. The rule of the road has its own end and other forces must be allowed to come into play to make fair competition. Where a Government or a local body is engaged, there can be no breaking of that monopoly and the people must pay for inefficiency. They cannot carry their own goods with their own transport, with the result that the due progress of the country will be slowed down, will slacken, and the country will be going back instead of being a country with the greatest possibilities of advancement. I understand, Sir, that the following district boards are either running or are about to run or are considering the running of their own bus services: Coimbatore, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Salem, North Arcot, Tirunelveli, Kurnool, Nellore, West Godavari and Guntur. That will be 10 out of 26 district 7-1
boards. I hear a voice say 'Malabar also'; that makes it eleven. p.m
Does that mean that the private owner of motor transport should be driven out; does that mean that the business which has grown up for a number of years and which has provided work for a large number of men on this work, should be put to hardship? Carefully nurtured, it looks as if it is now to be entirely destroyed for the sake of the district boards who will inevitably fail to run those transport services efficiently.

"Now, Sir, I must pass on because I see your congenial smile which indicates that the time-limit has been waived in my favour. Sir, I have one more point which I think I must put before the House. The action of the Central Road Traffic Board

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in issuing a notice that after 1st February 1939 only closed saloon buses will be licensed in the districts and the Government's subsequent action in putting an order which does not state definitely whether the previous order relating to the body of the buses would be cancelled or not, have created a great deal of uncertainty in the minds of the operators of motor traffic. I need not go through its history, because I am sure the Hon. the Minister knows it well. I have here the details of the order and what happened in these unfortunate cases. I am sure the Government would realize that the people are genuinely very distressed over this, and they want a clear policy; they want to know where they are and where they will be.

" Now, in regard to this lack of uniformity in the districts, there is another point and that is in regard to the maximum weight for lorries. The recent order states that $5\frac{1}{2}$ tons would be the maximum. It is not clearly stated whether it is applicable only to the City of Madras, where transport heavier than $5\frac{1}{2}$ tons has been operating for some time—and it is more in the case of certain important industries—or whether that is not the case That order does not state whether any uniformity will be enforced. While the designs for motor bodies would meet the requirements of the Motor Vehicles Rules, the owners of lorries are faced with the problem of numerous restrictions. They find it difficult to follow the rules as to commercial laden weights for lorries. Now, for example, it was not long ago, that the South Kanara Road Traffic Board issued an order. That order would not permit lorries of over four tons laden weight to ply in the district of South Kanara. It also stated different loads for different roads. Coimbatore follows in the steps of Malabar. Out of a total of 132 roads in Malabar, only on five of them lorries are allowed to ply with a laden weight of $5\frac{1}{2}$ tons; and in Coimbatore, out of a total of 87 roads, only on 13 roads lorries with a laden weight of $5\frac{1}{2}$ tons are allowed to ply. Recently the Chittoor District Road Traffic Board passed a flat order restricting the laden weight to 5 tons. Also, there are certain restrictions about roads and bridges. Tanjore ordered $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons, and on enquiry the Secretary of the Tanjore Road Traffic Board comes forward with an ingenious reply—and here I would like the Hon. Minister to note this—that because the cost of the road material is prohibitive, the district board authorities find it very expensive to maintain the roads with the funds at their disposal. So is that what is to happen to our Road Traffic Boards? If the cost of the road material goes up, does that mean there would be no more traffic on the roads? What is the solution of the difficulty? If there are no roads, then there will be no motors plying on those roads. That would seem to be the logical conclusion. This, I think, is a definitely retrograde step and it is really a very serious matter; it creates the utmost confusion and worry among the motor people.

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Is the traffic to be maintained on the roads, or is it entirely to be abolished, or are we to intensify the traffic with the bad condition of the roads—and every one knows that they are already bad enough? The logical conclusion from this abolition will be that it will unduly hamper the motor traffic and eventually ruin it. If we are to understand that the laden weight of 4½ tons includes the weight of the vehicle, then it is definitely uneconomic to own a lorry and it will not be worth while to ply lorries either for hire or for private purposes, or even for the district boards to own them.

"I also understand that the Central Road Traffic Board has issued a notice that they will not in future grant permits for any laden weight above 5½ tons. Is that going to continue? We do want something clear in regard to the matter.

"Now, Sir, the unsatisfactory nature of the personnel of particular District Traffic Boards has resulted in the suggestion put forth by the I.R.T.A.—and this is an important point in my speech—for reorganizing the Presidency into six circles with a single full-time authority in charge of each circle. Now, in regard to uniformity, I think, the new rule does not work well; it is a failure. The suggestion is to have five or six circles with a view to appoint a single full-time impartial person having no other official capacity except to be in charge of motor running. Now, Sir, in no sense must I be thought to be imputing any kind of inefficiency to the Police; they have done their difficult job extremely well with all the well-known efficiency and integrity of the Police force of Madras and I should like now to pay that tribute to them. But, at the same time, it is neither fair nor reasonable to expect them to carry out these duties also in addition to their other heavy duties. Of course, the activities of the five or six suggested transport authorities must be co-opted and co-ordinated by a single authority in Madras. Now, the suggestion of dividing the Presidency into five or six circles is much more suitable than the existing 25 or 26 geographical districts which happen to be districts because of certain historical facts and which have no association with the present-day needs of transport. The division into revenue districts is by no means necessary for an ideal transport service; but it will be appreciated that five or six divisions will certainly tend to develop more uniformity of standard in respect of control of traffic, issue of permits, design of bus bodies and all other details connected with the different conditions in each area, as against the present impossible policy of having 25 or 26 different authorities with entirely different and fanciful ideas of their own.

"There is another point and that is a very serious one, namely, under the Madras Motor Traffic Rules, 1938, a Municipal Chairman, a district board president, Executive Engineer or even a Police officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of

Police, has the power to close any road without consultation and prohibit all traffic. There need be no warning and the entire bus route may be completely upset. This reduces the Road Traffic Boards into a sort of licensing, permit-issuing and very often permit-refusing bodies (hear, hear) and it is really a misnomer to call them Road Traffic Boards when they have not got the power of closing roads even for purposes of repair in their own jurisdiction. I understand, that the Madras Motor Traffic Rules may—in all probability will—undergo some modification in the light of the All-India Motor Traffic Bill. When these modifications are taken up, I trust they will consider very seriously the question of revising the powers and functions of the present-day Road Traffic Boards.

"In conclusion, Sir, I would appeal to the Hon. the Minister not to have any hard and fast ideas in his mind, but to emulate the example of the Hon. the Prime Minister who is always ready to face the situation on the facts of the day, not on the facts of the past, and to realize the difficulties involved and to be reasonable in this matter. I hope he will come forward and say, 'we are only doing this for you and we will give you what you want; give us a fair chance.' In my speech I have only indicated to the Hon. Minister how this can be well and fairly done. I therefore ask him to do what he can in regard to this matter."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, after the very exhaustive manner in which the hon. Mr. Reid has dealt with this problem and made very useful suggestions, I do not think there is any need for me to go into the question of making suggestions in regard to the improvement in the administration of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. I would like, however, to go back about a year and recall what I said then at the time when the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was introduced, namely, that the mere Act would not help people; there must be a definite road policy; and there must be one person in charge of the roads and all that pertains to them. I repeat here what I said on that occasion. There are four Ministers now, more or less acting in this matter: my Hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan in charge of the administration of this Act, the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in charge of roads, the Hon. the Minister for Public Works also in charge of roads and the Hon. the Leader of the House in charge of the Police who administer the Act. Of course, you cannot ask the Government to combine all these in the hands of one. But, as far as possible, it is better that power in regard to roads is concentrated in the hands of one or two so that there might be some considered unilateral action. That, I think, was realized by the author of the Bill, who unfortunately is no longer with us. I was aware that he was seriously thinking of formulating a policy in regard to this matter; but God willed it otherwise.

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It is, however, a suggestion for the present Minister to take up so as to co-ordinate the activities of the various departments under this head.

" Now, Sir, with regard to the difficulties in the administration of this Act, the hon. the Muslim Member for the City of Madras has told us all about the difficulties of the bus-owners. It is a fact that the individual bus-owner is fast going out. It is indeed very good of the European group to have pleaded the case of individual bus-owners. It may look a trifle out of place to mention 7-30 p.m. that the people who benefited by the individual bus-owners going out of the trade were two big motor importers in Madras. If it benefited anybody, it benefited those two companies and by reason of the power in their hands they have lowered the wages of poor conductors and drivers. Though they have produced some kind of uniformity in this traffic, they have done it to the detriment of individual small owners who were all Indians. There is also another rumour—I am not sure whether it is a rumour or whether it is a fact—that these two big concerns are entering into an arrangement with the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway in the new company that is going to be floated. All this leads to integration and the small man is being weeded out. Naturally when the local bodies find that individual bus-owners are going out and private companies are taking their place, they think that there is a nice way for them to make money. Not that they are departing from any acknowledged principles. It is fairly well-known that public utility concerns are run by local bodies in some countries and we cannot object to the principle of it. But indirectly, this tends to change the facet of the business and it is doing a lot of havoc by aggravating the existing problem of unemployment which is already clamouring for solution in this country.

" The second thing is about the administration of the Act. The hon. and gallant Member representing the European Chamber of Commerce paid a high tribute to the Police. But I am afraid that I am not in the happy position of having to add to the meed of praise that has been showered by him on the department. If anybody is responsible for the failure of the Act, if the responsibility for the failure of the Act is to be laid at anybody's doors, it is at the doors of the Police. The Police department has mismanaged the whole show and it has created a lot of trouble. I would recall here what happened in the Tirunelveli district some time back. Owing to corruption in the matter of the control of bus traffic, nine officers of the Police department were suspended; a Police officer was deputed to investigate into the case and he perhaps whitewashed the whole thing; I am not sure as to what happened afterwards. The action against the officers of the Police department was taken at the instance of the District Magistrate. There is definitely a conflict between the Magistracy

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and the Police in the matter of the proper exercise of powers by the Police; otherwise a responsible officer of the status of a District Magistrate would not have taken such action necessitated by the existence of corruption in the department. Personally I have known that in several districts corruption among the Police exists. The administration of the Act by the Police has put them in the position of being able to make more money. I do not want to make any individual charges because it is not worthwhile but all the same it is there. This Act has been an engine of oppression in the hands of the Police and it is very much to be regretted. Let us take what is happening in the City. Every bus-owner goes about in perpetual fear of losing his licence and there are few bus drivers who do not have several endorsements made on their licences. Apart from this, what is it that the Motor Vehicles department is doing? You see empty drums painted black and white placed in a circle at road junctions in the middle of the road to indicate how controlling the traffic is being carried on.

" A case came to my notice some time back and I could not report it to the higher authorities because I was not here at the time the incident occurred. A lorry belonging to me with two respectable employees of mine was going along at a fairly ordinary speed in South Arcot district and it was stopped by one Assistant Superintendent of Police because it raised a cloud of dust when the Officer's car was following the lorry. The lorry was stopped and the officer called the inmates names and gave full vent to his spleen. The driver was prosecuted, brought before the Magistrate and fined fifty rupees for rash driving. The matter came to my notice later and I was not able to take any action in the matter. But, Sir, I find that this identical Assistant Superintendent was the man who was responsible for all the Police *zoolum* in the Annamalai University. The thing is that powers in the hands of young jackanapes, who are new to the department—they may have been in the department for only a year or two—generally lead to abuse. If really the Goverment want to save the people from such injustice they should send such officers for a period of two or three years to the malarial districts so that they may learn a lesson and come to the plains mellowed and sobered. Apart from the general criticisms against the personnel of the Police department, I think there must be some way devised to stop corruption. Surely there is the administration of other laws adding to the power of the Police like the Gaming Act, the Brothels Act which not only operate as a source of making money but also of interfering with people. The Act would have to be administered by the Police in such a way that the people would not be oppressed and I think that the Hon. Minister should do something to remedy the state of affairs.

" There is only one further point and I have done. There are pirate taxis running in the City of Madras and invariably they

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run with the connivance and the knowledge of the local Police. One of the Traffic Department Commissioners sometime back wanted to introduce a more decent type of taxi, the close covered saloons, doing away with the ugly vehicles that were running in the City. Naturally the people who were benefited by that decision were the firms that deal in that pattern of vehicles, Plymouth, Ford and Chevrolet cars. But what happened to the old ones? I am told that they are still plying as unregistered taxis and there are about 400 in the City and these are run with the knowledge and connivance of the Police and nothing has been done to check it. The result is that it is more profitable to run such pirate taxis than regular licensed ones, and the business is going on more merrily. If there is any change and the officers want to bring in a new type, all the old vehicles do not immediately become private cars but carry on as unregistered taxis. If any one wants to have an idea of the efficiency of the Police department and if there is any doubt as to their being above corruption, I would only point to him the existence of these pirate taxis and ask them how they could operate except with the connivance of the Police. I would, therefore, appeal to my hon. and gallant Friend, Mr. Reid, not to be praising the Police on their efficiency in the administration of the Act."

* BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, the first thing that I would like to discuss is the policy of the Central Road Traffic Board in the matter of the issue of permits to lorries for private use and public hire. The Central Traffic Board brought into existence under the amended Motor Vehicles Act has been entrusted with the granting of permits for public and private lorries. There is a great deal of hardship experienced by both sections of users and they are not easily granted the G. permits. The idea seems to be that the Central Traffic Board is to be the hand-maid of the Railway authorities, namely, the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway and South Indian Railway that are operating in this Presidency. It seems as though they must have the deciding voice in the grant of G. permits for lorries even though they may be for private trade purposes. I do not know under what law and under what rule they have come to occupy that position; they are allowed to sit at the time of the hearing by the Secretary; they come there and are present all the time and even cross-examine the parties. They do not have advocates to appear on their behalf and they put forth all sorts of obstacles in the way of the grant of the permit. I somehow feel that they are the persons who really decide the matter; it is not the Central Traffic Board or the Secretary under the delegated authority that decides the case. Why, Sir? The lorry is cheaper to run and carries loads, and above all it is speedier in point of time. It takes its goods at all places it chooses and it delivers it wherever required on the road in the street, and at

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the godown. In spite of all that the Railway would insist that the goods of the private trader even ought to be carried by the railway and not by the lorries. The railway authorities would not reduce the freight, they would not afford the traders any better convenience but they would stick to their cast iron rules; without any greater facilities they would insist on their carrying the goods of the private trader to the exclusion of the lorries. There is no reason or rhyme in that argument. Supposing there is a distance of 200 or 300 miles beyond which the goods are to be carried; it has been found beyond doubt that it is far cheaper, easier and more economical for the goods to be carried by the lorry than by the railway. There is this further advantage that they can send the goods at any time of the day or night—not wait for the wagons to arrive—get them down anywhere they like and take the goods wherever they can. Further there is no question of giving illegal gratification to anybody. In spite of all these advantages, all these conveniences are to be foregone and the Railways must have their goods traffic and that at heavier cost, perhaps double and treble, and with greater delay. Further there is the question of the non-availability of the wagons just when they are most needed. When goods could be transported by lorries in 20 or 18 hours, they will have to wait for a much longer time for the wagons and even when they are made available to them, it is done only at a higher cost. I think, Sir, that such insistence upon the traders to use only railways is neither fair nor reasonable. The time factor and the cost cannot be ignored. They do not increase speed nor do they facilitate transport amongst the commercial people; nor do they think of encouraging quick and cheap motor traffic in the country. I do not think that the public could be dictated to by the Railway authorities. The Railways are a commercial concern though they may be a national asset; if they want to compete they ought to enter the field of competition, fairly and squarely, lessen the freight, increase the speed and other conveniences and attract the traders to them in other ways. They should avoid unnecessary delay, stop corruption amongst their staff and minimize the difficulties experienced by the traders. I consider that the policy of the Central Traffic Board in the issue of permits to lorries is indeed unsatisfactory and it ought to be remedied. It should be liberalized and must take into account the interests of the commercial community.

"Again in the matter of issue of permits to these lorries enormous time is wasted. If the application is made, it is only nearly a month afterwards that the notice is issued for the parties to appear and it invariably happens that the permit is not issued on the same day. They go back and sometimes a second notice is issued. You can imagine the difficulty when persons are asked to come from long distances like Tinnevelly and Coimbatore and to go back without any permit issued. They come here and

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present themselves before the august presence of the representative of the Railways and if they do not satisfy the Railway authorities they are doomed. No permit will be issued to them. This is the way how the Central Board is working with regard to the issue of the permits. I think, Sir, that it is high time that the Hon. the Minister sets things right, by laying down a policy which would not hinder trade or affect the Railways adversely.

"The next thing I want to deal is the working of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules. I would suggest the revision of the powers of the Traffic Boards, both the Central and the District Traffic Boards. Much had been said in my absence by the hon. and gallant Gentleman representing the European Chamber of Commerce. I had not the good fortune of hearing the whole of his speech; when I came in he was at the end of his speech. However I heard very many sound suggestions made by him and I do not want to repeat them. So far as the working of the District Road Traffic Boards is concerned, I must say, Sir, that it is far from satisfactory. The fundamental defect is that the Superintendent of Police acts as Secretary and he functions also under delegated authority. If parties ask for the functions in respect of which delegation has been made and for all the particular matters that he has been authorized to do on behalf of the Board, they are merely told that information could not be furnished to the party. No reason is assigned for such refusal. I have got instances of such cases before me and if the Hon. the Minister wants the details I will give them to him. In the exercise of the delegated authority, the District Superintendent of Police acts capriciously and whimsically very often, and the remedy lies only in an appeal to the Board as a whole. Unfortunately the Board meets only once in a month or two, and it does so for a few hours and disposes of hundreds of petitions and appeals. There is no judicial mind applied to the petitions and appeals. The Boards forget that as appellate authorities their decisions have to be in the exercise of a judicial function. Very often no reasons are recorded for rejection of appeals and invariably no reasons are furnished to the parties, even when they are applied for. In this way the parties are denied the means of obtaining justice and redress. For want of reasons it is difficult for parties to take up matters in revision and they have to suffer interminably. The most unsatisfactory state of affairs prevails in some of the District Road 7-4 Traffic Boards. If the Hon. the Minister wants I can give him p.m. names, suggest figures and quote facts. But there is no time for it. Appeals from the District Road Traffic Board and the orders of the District Superintendent of Police exercising delegated authority, all take a long time for disposal. By the time an order is considered and disposed of on appeal, what happens is the bus stands still off the road; the person who invested 3 thousand and 4 thousand rupees in a bus is not able to pay his instalments. He

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earns nothing; he commits default and his bus is seized and is even sold away. Thus the party suffers and the loss incurred by him is never made good even if the unjust order is set aside. There is no power in the Chairman to issue interim orders to prevent the mischief of obviously wrong and unjust orders. This is a great defect in the Rules. It has to be remedied. I suggested to the predecessor in office of the present Hon. Minister, who unfortunately is now no more, that the rules require radical alteration. The power of delegation is abused; the Board relieves itself of its legitimate functions by such delegation. Matters are not dealt with by Road Traffic Board in circulation. These things must be remedied, and power must be vested in the Chairman of the Board for interim and urgent orders. At present the Chairman has no power to afford immediate relief to afflicted parties. His directions are never carried into effect. The Secretary should not be a member of the Board. If he is to be a member, then he should not have delegated authority. The combination of these two functions is not sound. What is the result? The motor bus-owners suffer, and the general public to cater to whose needs the buses are run, also suffer and are put to the greatest inconvenience. The loss which the parties are put to is never taken into consideration. That the loss is irreparable is not realized.

" Now, coming to the Central Road Traffic Board the first thing that is required is expedition. There are appeals pending before this Board for the two months, three months and four months. A great deal of time is taken to dispose of them. You might ask the reason why. The reason is that the very constitution of it is defective. It consists of the First Member of the Board of Revenue, the Chief Engineer for Buildings and Roads, the Inspector-General of Police and the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities. These are all presidency touring officers, and it is difficult for them to meet togeteher often; nay, it is impossible for them to meet together as often as may be necessary to dispose of files. So what happens is, they meet only once in a month and the files are circulated among them; the files go in search of them wherever they go, and it takes one to two weeks for a file to be seen by each of them. If in the meauwhile one of the members should put a query, the file will have to come back to the Central Road Traffic Board office, the query will have to be answered by the office if possible and if not, information will have to be obtained from districts and the file will have to be then sent up again. All this takes time, and so the files could not be disposed of with any speed at all. Roughly we may take eight to ten weeks to be the time required for the disposal of a file. There is also to be reckoned the enormous time that is taken by the Road Traffic Boards in sending papers and reports.

" Another thing which contributes to the delay is that the Government have not given sufficient staff for the Central Roa

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Traffic Board. There are only four clerks, one stenographer and one Head Clerk in that office. The pressure of work in the office is so great that the staff has to come to office at nine in the morning and work till late in the evening. The work has been fast increasing and they cannot cope with the same. Of course the Secretary works for full 6 hours and leaves office after five, but the clerks continue to work even after 6 or 7 p.m. They are denied even the benefit of electric fans. Perhaps the Hon. Premier will say, Mr. Basheer holds a brief for the clerks (Laughter.) He will say that he is in charge of the services and that he will take care of them. But I may at once say, Sir, I do not care who the persons affected are; I only want that justice be done to the aggrieved parties, whoever they may be. If the Government simply claim their right to protect their servants and do not do anything more by way of relief, of what help is it to the overworked clerks? There must be somebody to take up their cause and bring it effectively to the notice of the Government. It is due to this insufficiency of staff partly that the disposal of the petitions and appeals is delayed and consequently the bus-owners suffer; their bus cannot be plied but remains idle, and the party is ruined and he has invested his last pie in that. In this matter the fundamental point is missed by the District Road Traffic Boards and the Central Road Traffic Board, namely, that it is a matter of financial loss to the party if any illegal order is passed and delay is caused in setting it aside. It is a life and death problem for the bus-owner. That is why a speedy disposal is required. I submit the constitution of the Central Road Traffic Board should be radically changed. There must be a speedier procedure. I have no objection for an I.C.S. Officer being put at the head of it; I want it to be an independent body, so that there may be speedy working. If there is speedy working of the Boards there will be speedy development of means of conveyance and transport. For want of the necessary facilities for development, are we going to revert back to the days of bullock-carts or still slower means of conveyance? Does this inordinate delay in the disposal of appeals and petitions conduce to the benefit of the motor owners or the public?

"Sir, there are many other points on which the working of the Central Road Traffic Board requires to be remedied. In the issue of permits for trunk roads and inter-district roads there is again considerable delay and conflict of interests. The officers themselves do not know the rules properly, and functions have been usurped by certain Boards."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I think the mover has spoken on it."

* BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not know, Sir, as I was not here then. There must be some training given to the officers in the knowledge of the rules governing

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the issue of these permits. As it is, the issuing authorities are *not fully appraised of the rules and consequently* a great deal of hardship is caused to the public by the ignorance of the officers. The rules and the Code are there, but few of the officers care to administer them as they should. In their ignorance they do not administer them, but they mal-administer them. (Laughter.) In the result, Sir, I want that there must be a special officer or somebody set up to go into these defects in the working of these boards and rules and suggest how to remedy them. Reform of the constitution, the functioning and working thereof is necessary; nay, reform the entire system that is now in vogue; that is what I urge for."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR rose.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it necessary that the hon. Member should speak on every cut motion."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I did not speak on Registration and Forest."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You will have to finish in three minutes."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I think in these interruptions one minute would have been lost. I have given notice of three cut motions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may speak on all the points; he need not move the cut motions."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall deal with them in a very cursory manner. Sir, hon. Members who spoke before me have already explained the great difficulties suffered by the bus-owners. It was pointed out that it was not a profitable job. And now the district board is coming to take away what little they have been earning till now. So far as we can see, the policy of the Government has not been one of sympathy towards these people. The fear as to what will be the future of the trade has completely upset them. I may be permitted to point out that the work done by the Traffic Boards has been thoroughly unsatisfactory."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It has already been pointed out."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The bus-owners require some opportunity to be given to them to ventilate their grievances to the proper authorities. This was the point I raised when this legislation was under discussion. But unfortunately my point was not accepted. What is it we find now? Bus-owners have no means of ventilating their grievances before the Boards. Sir, more often than not their case goes by default. The officers have no sympathy for them. Even

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the non-official who is there behaves like an official. So, Sir, I strongly feel that the present Government should find it possible to give representation to these bus-owners in the Road Traffic Board.

" One other point I wish to bring to the notice of Government is the rule which makes provision for the production of medical certificate. Under the present rules, I understand, there are not more than three or four items to be filled in a certificate, and for that it is not necessary that the bus-wallahs should be asked to appear before the District Medical Officer or any Gazetted Medical Officer. These certificates can as well be given by a non-gazetted officer, say, the sub-assistant surgeon. As things obtain at present, it is a great handicap for these poor bus-owners to get the medical certificates from the gazetted officers who will be charging high fees for issuing them.

" Sir, I may be permitted to add to what Mr. Hameed Khan said with regard to the district boards taking up bus service. Sir, this is a matter on which I feel greatly concerned, because I come from Kurnool where there is a proposal from the district board to take over bus management. In my district this step will ruin hundreds of families. When the roads were bad and the traffic was poor private initiative came into the field. Private service continued against heavy odds for the last so many years. Now when there is a chance for earning something, the district boards want to take over the service themselves.

" There are other difficulties in the way. If the district boards are to take over the bus management, what is to happen to the private buses? If the bus-owners do not run the service they must sell their buses; how are they to do it? Will the district board purchase them or will they purchase new buses? If they agree to purchase old ones, then they may fix the price very low, so low that the bus-owners may have to lose heavily. So my plea to the Government is that before they grant permission to any district board to run bus service, they must satisfy themselves what profit it will fetch to the district board. They must collect statistics for this. If it is found that the profit will be only a paltry sum, a few hundreds of rupees, the district board should not be given permission. But if it is found that the profits will be large, then there must be an arrangement made whereby bus-owners may be made share-holders. Unless a thing of this sort is done, the whole thing will work hardship on the present bus-owners. Sir, you asked me to finish my speech in three minutes; and whenever you look at me, I feel you mean to say that the time at my disposal is over (laughter) and consequently it has not been possible for me to do full justice . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" No, you have done enormously well (laughter)."

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* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am afraid I have not done full justice. Sir, as the time allotted for me has elapsed I resume my seat."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister will now reply."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" He may take half an hour."

MR. SPEAKER:—" He will finish in five minutes; he is very brief and pointed always. We will finish this Demand and then adjourn."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, the hon. Member for the City Muslims who began the discussion on this motion waxed eloquent on the monopoly that is being created in the matter of buses since the passing of this Act. I myself have had a great number of complaints from bus-owners in the City that such a monopoly is taking place and I am having the matter carefully investigated so that the individual bus-owner will have as much chance of running his bus as any company. (Hear, hear, *from the European Group*.) I was glad to find the hon. Member representing the Chamber of Commerce (European) who followed my hon. Friend the Member for the City Muslims also dealing sympathetically with this question of individual bus-owners. But the hon. Member for Indian Commerce who spoke also on this motion has pointed out already how the monopoly is taking place and I am sure if hon. Members belonging to the European Group take interest in this matter they could stop this monopoly. They should, as has been pointed out by the hon. Member for City Muslims, give a chance to these individual bus-owners to have shares in the new companies which may be formed so that the individual bus-owners who have made this business in the City might not lose a chance of taking shares in any companies that might be formed for running buses not only in the City but also in the districts.

" I too feel that the time has come when perhaps there ought to be co-ordination of these bus services and the Government themselves feel that the formation of limited companies for the running of the bus traffic is a good thing. But at the same time, as has been pointed out by members who have spoken on the cut motion, it should be possible to encourage individual bus-owners to become share-holders in the new companies that may be formed. The hon. Member for the Chamber of Commerce of the Europeans has pointed out several defects in the working of the Act. One person connected with the bus traffic has already seen me with regard to this and has made the very suggestion that the hon. Member made. That is the question of dividing the Province into five or six main regions and having a full-time staff for considering the question of licences and

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'G' permits. I can assure the hon. Member that this matter is engaging the consideration of the Government, but I must also not forget to warn him that it is a matter of finance and the financial implications of such a scheme will have to be considered, before I can make any promise on behalf of the Government that this proposal will come into effect. I can assure hon. Members that this suggestion will be seriously considered, because I do feel that a certain amount of co-ordination of this traffic is absolutely necessary. But, I would also remind hon. Members who have spoken on this motion that they should not forget that the railways are a national asset and nothing should be done to depreciate the value of the railways. The Government of India and the Provincial Governments also are interested in the running of the railways in the country. Speaking on the matter I would like to say that the railways are mostly State-owned and I am sure hon. Members will realize that some system has to be found by which the railway traffic can be maintained. The hon. Member representing the Muslims of South Arcot and Chingleput tried to point out how the motor traffic may be even cheaper than the railway traffic. I am not prepared to grant the assumption he has made. (Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur: 'It is so in fact.') For long distances, as far as my experience goes, I think the railways can manage traffic in a better manner than bus traffic. For short distances, perhaps the bus traffic is better than the railways to save time. But the Government will have to consider the question of railways as well. I do not assert that we want to see the bus traffic stopped to help the railways. Bus traffic is a thing that has come to stay and it is not possible to root it out altogether. But at the same time, we have also to think of the railways and I am sure hon. Members opposite will admit that the railways are a national asset and have got to be conserved in the best possible manner. The hon. Member for Indian Commerce talked of pirate taxis in the City. The Government have recently issued instructions to the authorities that they should try and put down these pirate buses. But I am sure hon. Members realize that it is not easy to find out this pirate traffic and also to prepare evidence as would satisfy a judicial tribunal so as to bring the offenders to book. But, all the same the Police authorities are trying their best to weed out this traffic. I must here protest against the statements made by the hon. Member for the Indian Commerce constituency—unfortunately he is not here—on the allegations, which are rather vague, which he made on the Police. This has been replied to by the hon. Member representing the European Chamber of Commerce. He paid a great tribute to the way in which the Police have controlled traffic and have worked the Motor Vehicles Act during the past year. Of course, in every department there are always grievances which have got to be rectified and I may assure hon. Members that every

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effort is being made both by the higher officials and the Government to run the administration in such a manner as to obviate the necessity for criticism that has been made by hon. Members opposite and to weed out corruption. There may be a little, but at the same time I am afraid most of the statements that the hon. Member for Indian Commerce constituency made are rather exaggerated.

" The hon. Member for the European Commerce constituency referred to the question of tonnage on various roads in the Province. The South Kanara District Board had to restrict the tonnage to four tons, because the culverts and the bridges in South Kanara cannot carry heavier traffic at the present moment. But they are trying to make up by the grants that have been given from the Government of India and strengthen the culverts and when such a thing has been done, then certainly, the tonnage on the roads will be increased. I am thankful to the hon. Member for suggesting that a definite policy with regard to the tonnage should be followed. The Central Road Traffic Board, I am sure, will take this into consideration and see whether a general rule cannot be made with regard to tonnage that will be applicable to all roads. He referred to the district of Tanjore and the difficulties of the roads there. I am acquainted to a certain extent with the roads of the Tanjore district. It is not an exaggeration when it is said that metal is hard to find in Tanjore district. My hon. friend, the Member representing the Indian Christians of Tanjore-Madura-Ramnad must be able to support me in the statement, because he himself was in charge of the district board for many years and he himself had to get metal from Jaffna in Ceylon. Hon. Members can understand how expensive it would be to get the metal. The district board of Tanjore are doing their best to try and keep their roads in order, in order to carry heavy traffic and the hon. Member whose name I have already mentioned, namely, the Member for Madura-Ramnad-Tanjore Christians, himself at his time had a great deal to do with metalling the roads and to make motor traffic possible in that district. He himself will tell you the difficulty that he had to encounter especially in allowing a heavy-weight lorry to go over these roads. But as I have said, attempts will be made to try and fix the tonnage in such a manner as to satisfy the criticisms that have been made by my hon. Friend the Member for the European Commerce constituency and to see that rules are made by the Central Road Traffic Board as to make it economical.

" There have been criticisms with regard to the constitution of the District as well as the Central Road Traffic Board and the delay in regard to the appeals that have been considered by the Central Road Traffic Board. The delay that is caused by the Central Road Traffic Board is not any the greater than in the

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case of other statutory bodies. (Interruption by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.) But if they do not observe rules and regulations then I may say that the hon. Member representing the Muslims of South Arcot and Chingleput will himself complain as a lawyer that all regulations that have been laid down have not been observed by the Central Road Traffic Board and that they decided cases in a haphazard manner and not as he would like appeals to be considered. Not only is this the case, but with all the limitations, the Central Road Traffic Board have done the best they can in order to hear the appeals and they have always done their best in giving quick decisions. Of course it is not humanly possible to give always correct decisions, because the Central Road Traffic Board is after all human, because it is composed of only human beings. But I can assure hon. Members that the Central Road Traffic Board have done all they can to expedite decisions on appeals and have come to conclusions which have on the whole been accepted by people who have come before them.

" With regard to the question of issue of permits over two or three districts, here again, the Central Road Traffic Board have gone into the whole matter and have not come to decisions in a haphazard manner, as was suggested by some of my hon. Friends opposite. They have done what they could to satisfy various controversies that have been raised before them. All that is possible is being done by them to co-ordinate. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to tell hon. Members opposite that the experience they have had is a very short one. In view of the criticisms that have been made on the floor of the House, I may assure them that the Central Road Traffic Board and the District Road Traffic Boards will try and work in such a manner as to satisfy hon. Members of this House. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: If their attention is drawn . . .)

" I have forgotten one matter, Sir. My hon. Friend the Member representing the Muslims of the City referred to the question of district boards running buses. That is one point I have missed.

" Only one district board so far has been given permission to run motor buses between Pollachi and Coimbatore in the Coimbatore district. So far as accounts show they have run this at a profit. Hon. Members opposite must realize that municipal trading is one of the functions known in the West for augmenting the resources of a local body and therefore if satisfactory evidence is put before the Government for running of such traffic by district boards, permission would be given. I can assure hon. Members that considerations of individual bus-owners will also be taken into account before the Government come to a final decision.

"I would request my hon. Friend, the Member for City Muslims to withdraw his cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the exhaustive reply given by the Hon. Minister I think the cut motion is withdrawn."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"By leave of the House, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Certainly by leave of the House."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 18th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Loans granted under the Agriculturists' Loans (Madras Amendment) Act, 1935, *up to the end of January* 1939.

* 918 *Q.*—SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what portion of the sum of Rs. 50,00,000 provided in the Budget Estimate for 1938–39, for loans under the Agriculturists' Loans (Madras Amendment) Act, 1935, has been spent to the end of January 1939 and in which districts; and

(*b*) what steps have been taken to give sufficient publicity to the conditions laid down for obtaining loans in this respect?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) Rules for disbursements of loans were framed and issued late last year and there was delay in issuing all the forms in the various local languages. Owing to the suspense in which the application of the Debt Relief Act to promissory notes was placed by the courts, and the conditions prescribed by Government being that loans may be issued only where scaling down has been effected by decree of Court or order of a Debt Conciliation Board or where the creditors consent to the scaling down, and the holding would be freed from encumbrance by the issue of the loan, no progress was made until recently.

" The December reports showed that about Rs. 23 lakhs were applied for, but applications for about Rs. 16 lakhs did not satisfy the requirements and had to be returned. Applications for about Rs. 7 lakhs are under consideration.

" (*b*) A press communiqué explaining the terms and conditions for the grant of these loans in simple language was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* soon after the issue of the rules. Details of the scheme were published by several newspapers as well. The Board of Revenue has also instructed the Collectors to take effective steps to popularize the scheme."

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KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, if any sum out of this Rs. 50,00,000 has been given as loans and if so, what the amount so far given is?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The actual disbursement was a very small amount. It has been stated already."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the balance will lapse or will be carried over to the next year?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I have already explained, Sir, in introducing the Budget that this amount was drawn upon for financing the land mortgage banks and there is no question of lapsing because every year the Budget has to be prepared again."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have received any representations from ryots of the zamindari tracts that this loan is not made available to them by reason of the fact that lands have not been surveyed, and if so, what steps the Government are taking to make loans available to such zamin ryots?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The matter will be inquired into and the needful will be done."

Scheduled class employees in the Registration department qualified to be promoted as Sub-Registrars.

* 919 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether any employees in the department qualified to be promoted as Sub-Registrars belong to the Scheduled classes?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Five clerks belonging to the Scheduled classes are qualified for promotion as Sub-Registrars in the Madras Registration Subordinate Service."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—"Were the claims of any of them superseded at any time for appointment as Sub-Registrars and if so, why?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that a number of clerks who are qualified to hold the office of Sub-Registrars have not been promoted to these posts and hands are recruited from outside?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The matter will be enquired into."

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Eviction of temporary cultivators from certain tank-bed lands in Velliyur village, Tiruvallur taluk.

* 920 *Q.*—Sri D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. he Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to he starred question No. 166 answered on the 28th November 938—

(*a*) the action taken by the District Collector of Chingleput o evict the temporary cultivators from the tank-bed lands lying n Nos. 230, 231 and 232 of Velliyur village, Tiruvallur taluk; nd

(*b*) if the said cultivators have not been evicted so far, the easons for the same?

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have called for a report."

Number of Muhammadan turns and candidates for the posts of Deputy Tahsildars passed over in the Revenue department in the Northern Circars.

* 921 *Q.*—MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the lon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Muhammadan turns for the post of Deputy 'ahsildars in the Northern Circars were passed over in the Revenue epartment with reference to the communal G.O. No. 947, dated 0th September 1934;

(*b*) if so, how many; and

(*c*) how many Muhammadan candidates were passed over?

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Ten.

" (*c*) Six Muhammadans in the District Revenue establishment who were otherwise qualified for appointment were not considered suitable for inclusion in the list of approved candidates for the post of Deputy Tahsildar."

Measures to relieve agricultural distress in the South Arcot district.

* 922 *Q.*—Sri A. SUBRAMANIAM: Will the Hon. the finister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that all the crops ithered in the area of South Arcot district not irrigated by ivers, especially in Kallakurichi taluk and some portions of 'irukkoilur taluk on account of the failure of seasonal rains;

(*b*) whether the Government have received any further report rom the Collector of South Arcot; and

(*c*) what measures the Government intend to take to relieve ie distress?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) The Government are aware that the seasonal conditions in the South Arcot district have not been favourable.

" (b) No further report has been received from the Collector of South Arcot.

" (c) As far as the Government are aware no special measures requiring the sanction of Government are necessary for this purpose."

Investigation and starting of the Gundlakamma River Project.

* 923 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the investigation of the Gundlakamma River Project, Guntur, has been completed;

(b) what the estimated cost of this project is;

(c) what percentage of profit is expected from this project; and

(d) whether the same will be included in the Budget for next year?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) A preliminary investigation of the scheme has been made. Proposals for employing a special staff for making a detailed investigation of the scheme are under consideration.

" (b) & (c) Accurate estimate of the cost of the Project and the percentage of profit from the Project will be available after detailed investigation is made and estimates are prepared.

" (d) The answer is in the negative."

Qualifications prescribed for the post of Chief Boiler Inspector.

* 924 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR on behalf of Khan Bahadur P. M. Attakoya Thangal Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any special qualifications have been prescribed for the post of a Chief Boiler Inspector; and

(b) what the qualifications recommended for the post of Chief Inspector of Boilers by the Boiler Laws Committee are and whether the present officiating incumbent possesses the qualifications prescribed for the post?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) Under the statutory rules for the service, no person shall be eligible for appointment as Chief Inspector of Boilers unless he

(i) has attained 30 years of age;

(ii) possesses an extra First-class Board of Trade Certificate of Competency as Engineer;

(iii) has served as Engineer-Surveyor to the Board of Trade or to a British Boiler Insurance Company for a period of not less than four years; and

(iv) is fully conversant with the theory and construction of boilers and is competent to control and manage a department, the duties of which comprise the working of the Act including inspection of boilers, steam pipes and pumping plant of all kinds.

But promotion from Inspector to Chief Inspector can be made even though the Inspector does not possess the above special qualifications prescribed for the post.

" (b) The Boiler Laws Committee did not prescribe any definite qualifications. They merely stated that the post required special and superior qualifications. The present officiating incumbent does not possess the qualifications now prescribed in the rules but he was first selected in 1932 to act as Chief Inspector of Boilers in a leave vacancy on the ground that he had rendered approved service of more than ordinary merit."

Equitable distribution of water to the ryots of Dusi and Kalivaram in Chicacole taluk, Vizagapatam district, from the Dusi-Kalivaram branch channel.

* 925 *Q.*—SRI P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any representations from the ryots of Dusi and Kalivaram in Chicacole taluk, Vizagapatam district, about the equitable distribution of water from the Dusi-Kalivaram branch channel, under the Wadada main channel, to their lands without any inconvenience being caused by the Public Works Department; and

(b) how the Government have finally disposed of the matter?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The Government are awaiting the Chief Engineer's report on the representations referred to in clause (a)."

Standardization of weights and measures.

* 926 *Q.*—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Provincial Government have addressed the Government of India on the question of a Central Act for standardizing weights and measures; and

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the negative, whether the Government will be pleased to take early steps on the above question?

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Sri N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" (a) & (b) The Provincial Government have been in communication with the Government of India on the question of a Central Act for the standardization of weights."

Suitability of Vizagapatam for the successful working of the East Coast Ceramic Industries, Limited.

* 927 Q.—Sri V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR on behalf of Sri K. V. R. Swami: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the progress made by the East Coast Ceramic Industries, Limited, Vizagapatam, is;

(b) whether the place is suitable for the kind of articles to be manufactured;

(c) whether the Government have made any investigation into the possibility of success of the industries to be attempted by the Company; and

(d) if so, what the result of such investigation is?

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI:—" (a) The East Coast Ceramic Industries, Limited, which was registered on 4th December 1937 has so far been able to raise a lakh of rupees by shares. The company's kiln and building at Rajahmundry are now nearing completion. Most of the machinery necessary for the manufacture of tiles and drainage pipes has arrived and will soon be fixed up.

" (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (c) & (d) The Government have not made any special investigation. They are satisfied that many factors necessary to make the enterprise a success are present. The results of experiments carried out by the company have been most satisfactory as regards the manufacture of fire bricks, stoneware pipes and tiles."

Eligibility of the members of District Boards, District Educational Councils and the District Harijan Advisory Committees to visit Labour schools.

* 928 Q.—Sri E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether members of the District Boards, District Educational Councils and of the District Harijan Advisory Committees are at liberty to visit Labour schools and write remarks in the visitors' book?

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI:—" Members of the District Harijan Advisory Committees are at liberty to visit labour schools in the districts and write their remarks in the visitors' book. The others are not."

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Sri E. KANNAN :—" May I enquire whether the Government have been pleased to take any action on the meaningless order that the Collector of Malabar has recently issued prohibiting the members of the Advisory Committee from making their remarks in the visitors' book? "

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" Notice, Sir."

Proposals for the levy of additional duty on imported rice.

* 929 *Q.*—Sri D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two hundred and fifty thousand tons more than the usual quota of rice imports into this Province is expected in the period from January to August of this year;

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the cause for the abrupt rise and fall in the price levels of rice in the Madras market, in December 1938; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal with the Government for imposing any additional duty on imported rice with the concurrence of the Government of India and if so, what it is?

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" (*a*) The anticipated deficit in the production of rice in this Province during the year consequent on the wide-spread failure of the north-east monsoon has stimulated imports of paddy and rice into this Province which in normal times is a deficit one. It is not possible to give any estimate of the quantity of rice expected to be imported during the period in question in excess of normal imports.

" (*b*) There has been no fall in the price level of rice in the Madras market during December 1938. On the other hand, there has been a steady rise in the price level.

" (*c*) This is a matter entirely within the province of the Government of India with whom this Government, however, are in communication. It is not customary to place such confidential correspondence on the table of the House."

Hardship of the Madrasis involved in the strike in the jute mills in Bengal.

* 930 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any information as to the number of Madrasis involved in the strike in the jute mills in the Tittagarh Mill area in Bengal;

(*b*) what the nature of the strike was;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that a large number of them have been victimised; and

(*d*) what steps, if any, the Government have taken or propose to take on their behalf?

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THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) According to unofficial information, i.e., messages received from persons acting on behalf of the men, 5,000 to 6,000.

" (b) & (c) Neither the strikers nor their leaders communicated with this Government before taking the step they took and the Government are unable to give any information on the subject.

" (d) The Government of Bengal have been addressed."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" Were any representations received from the Madrasi workers subsequent to the strike? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" There were some representations made and we addressed the Bengal Government."

Manner of spending the allotment for hand-spinning for 1937–38.

* 931 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state the manner in which the amount set apart for hand-spinning movement for 1937–38 was actually spent?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" The Government are expending the grant for the development of hand-spinning and khadi manufacture movement through the All-India Spinners' Association, Ahmedabad, which carries on its work in this Province through the agency of the Andhra, Tamil Nad and Kerala branches of the association. Detailed information relating to the utilization of the grant will be found in G.O. No. 2597, Development, dated 22nd November 1937, the annual report of the All-India Spinners' Association, Ahmedabad, for the year 1937 and paragraph 43 at page 31 of the Administration Report of the Department of Industries for the year ending with 31st March 1938, copies of which are available for reference in the Library of the Madras Legislature.

" A statement showing the amount actually disbursed and the particulars of disbursement will be laid on the table of the House during the next session of the Assembly."

Resolutions passed at the Provincial Conferences of Local Board employees and at the Provincial Educational Conferences against G.O. No. 4619, L. & M., dated 20th October 1934.

* 932 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938, the Government received resolutions on G.O. No. 4619, L. & M., dated 20th October 1934, from Provincial Conferences of Local Board employees and Provincial Educational Conferences?

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THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" The hon. Member is referred to the answer to starred question No. 738 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 23rd February 1939."

Number and names of district boards levying cut in the salary of their secondary school teachers.

* 933 *Q.*—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number and names of district boards that have imposed a salary cut on their secondary school teachers?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" The District Board, Malabar, is the only district board which is at present imposing a cut on the *salaries* of its secondary school teachers. In the Tanjore District Board a cut has been in operation in the case of certain personal allowances drawn by secondary school teachers. The district board has recently been asked to remove this cut."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU :—" What is the rate of cut?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" Notice, Sir."

Statistics regarding the clerical and menial staff expected to be thrown out of employment consequent on the abolition of District Educational Councils from 1st April 1939.

* 934 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of District Educational Councils that will be abolished on 1st April 1939;

(*b*) what the total number of the clerical staff that will thereby be thrown out of employment is; and

(*c*) what the total number of the menial staff that will thereby go out of work is?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" (*a*) The total number of District Educational Councils to be abolished is 25. It is proposed to abolish the Councils from 1st June 1939.

" (*b*) & (*c*) A report has been called for. They will not all be thrown out of employment as it is proposed to absorb some in Government service."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" May I know what will be the position of the others that are left without being employed? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" They will rest at home."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" Is that the policy of the Government, Sir, considering their long term of service in the department? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" We are following the traditions, Sir, of the previous Government which threw the people into the streets."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether this Government is following the traditions of the previous Government in everything good, bad and indifferent?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"We are following whatever is good from whichever Government it may be."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether throwing men out of employment is good?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"We are going a step further than the previous Government by taking over people even by relaxing the rules."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Is it not increasing the educated unemployed by taking such a step?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"We are increasing unemployment in a good many other ways too."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know how many years of service these people have put in?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Too complicated for a supplementary question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I put it simply, Sir? Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are any persons who have put in more than five years service and who have been in permanent employment?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"We will be taking in all those who satisfy the statutory service rules."

User of the Vattakinar maidan in Tuticorin for holding public meetings.

*915 *Q.*—SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Congress Secretary in Tuticorin has been prevented from holding public meetings, usually held in open vacant spaces near roads and streets by order of the local authorities, and if so, why;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the local authorities there prohibited a procession organized by her on the Independence Day, 26th January 1939, *from passing through certain parts of the town*, and if so, why; and

(*c*) whether the Government intend to permit the user of the Vattakinar maidan for public meetings?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I must apologize for being late and disturbing the order of business.

"(*a*) The Congress Secretary in Tuticorin has not been prevented from holding public meetings in vacant spaces near

roads and streets. Such meetings, however, have been prevented from encroaching on and blocking the streets.

"(b) The local authorities acting under the orders of the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, refused to allow a Congress procession to be taken into Shanmugapuram as persons living in that locality are believed to be mostly opposed to the policies and programme of the Congress. On 25th December 1938 a procession was taken unexpectedly into that locality and a disturbance resulted. It was in order to prevent another disturbance that the Congress Secretary was informed that the procession would not be allowed through Shanmugapuram. On hearing this the Secretary desisted from taking the procession and no prohibitory order had to be issued.

"(c) The maidan belongs to the Tuticorin Municipality. There will be no objection to meetings being held at this place, but the permission of the municipality is necessary."

* 916 *Q.*—SRI R. M. PALAT:—"I am not putting the question in view of yesterday's statement."

Action, if any, taken on the representations against Police administration in Malabar.

* 917 *Q.*—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR on behalf of Khan Bahadur P. M. Attakoya Thangal Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the Government have received recently any representations against Police administration from any representative public bodies in the Malabar district, and if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Some representations containing allegations against the Police of the Malabar district were received by the Government from certain unofficial committees and associations in the Malabar district during 1938 and in January and February 1939. As there is a great deal of economic distress, and the condition of the peasantry is not satisfactory, and as a popular Government is holding responsibility, it is natural for persons to make general allegations against the Police, who are bound to support the existing order, and give thereby the impression that they are suppressing the agitation for a change. The Government are taking steps to see that the liberty of public agitation for the redress of grievances is preserved along with the due maintenance of peace and order."

SRI E. KANNAN:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that Police high-handedness in Malabar is becoming intolerable?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"There are stories on both sides, Sir."

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MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask what the Premier has done to ascertain the facts underlying those stories?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I have tried my best to ascertain and I have given the summary already in the first answer."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Apart from the general assumption, may I know what action the Government have taken on the representations made from Malabar?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" On the representations enquiries have been made in each case and as the hon. Member who puts the question is aware, it is not so easy to accept the representation."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether there are not similar complaints from other districts also?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I must admit, Sir, that the complaints are larger in number from Malabar.

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Malayalee is rather like the Irishman usually against the Police?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The history of each district leaves its consequences, Sir."

MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Premier is aware that at least in certain portions of Malabar since 1921 the Malayalee has been treated worse than the Irishman by the Police?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Without committing myself in regard to the Irishman, I shall proceed to answer, Sir. I have already said that since 1921 and following the incidents of 1921, there are plenty of reasons for a different psychology to be created on both sides. Much patience is necessary before normal conditions are restored and I crave for that patience for some little time."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION.

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 62,43,900 under Demand VII—Irrigation.*'

" Of this—

(1) Rs. 27·29 lakhs are required for working expenses on productive (Rs. 22 lakhs) and unproductive works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept.

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(2) A sum of Rs. 33·82 lakhs is required for (*a*) working expenses of the existing works (*Public* Works Department 14·89 lakhs, and minor irrigation 12·54 lakhs) for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept, (*b*) cost of gauging and investigation of new projects, and (*c*) cost of original works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept.

(3) Rs. 1·33 lakhs represent capital outlay on works which are unproductive but for which capital and revenue accounts are kept.

"I may mention that there is a provision under item (1) of Rs. 1 lakh and under item (2) of Rs. 2 lakhs for flood repairs. Provision has also been made for remodelling the Achanta channel and its branches in the Godavari Western delta and remodelling 'A' class channels in the Cauvery delta system.

"Under item (2) I am making provision for two new works, *viz.*, excavating the channel from the right of the Pennar to irrigate certain villages in Siddhout taluk and to excavate a spring channel from the left bank of the Chitravati river to irrigate certain lands in Jammalamadugu taluk, Cuddapah district. The expenditure on the former will be met from the Famine Relief Fund.

"The amount required under item (3) for 1939–40 includes two new works, namely, (1) fitting up falling shutters over the Nellore anicut and (2) excavating the Yellakurru drain in the Kistna Eastern delta.

"The Government recognize the necessity of undertaking certain other projects and they have given particular attention to the Torrigedda Project, the Pennar-Kumudavathi Project, Kanur Drainage scheme and restoration of the Panjapatti reservoir. No funds, however, could be found from the general revenues for outlay on these works. The Government have not, however, dropped these projects but keep them prominently in view and if additional revenue is derived to the extent anticipated from the new taxation proposals placed before the Legislature for approval, it may be possible to take up the more urgent of the projects mentioned above in the near future. The people who had been suffering for fifty years and could not persuade the previous Government to take up the Torrigedda Project in spite of their large Excise revenue, will, I hope, have patience for another year and help the Government in bettering their financial position to take up even such a project as the Pennar-Kumudavathi Project which will not yield even the small percentage prescribed for a protective work.

"The Madras-Hyderabad agreement about the partial distribution of the Tungabhadra waters can be regarded as a great achievement. The problem of equitable distribution of the waters

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among the Governments concerned bristled with difficulties which baffled solution for a long time. Every Government considered itself entitled to a quantity which the other Governments were not prepared to concede and at one time the matter was almost referred to the Government of India for arbitration. At the instance of the Government of India, several attempts were made to bring about a settlement by mutual consultation but like will-o'-the-wisp, the nearer we tried to approach, the farther it went. One thing that I gathered from the close study of the Tungabhadra scheme was that no Government had any project for the immediate utilization of all the water that will be ultimately declared as its legitimate share. A certain minimum quantity was required to make the scheme workable and no further quantity will be required till the first stage of development is completed. It was also estimated that it would take at least thirty years to complete the first stage. It, therefore, naturally occurred to me that these Governments instead of concerning themselves with the question of the ultimate distribution, should come to some arrangement for the partial appropriation of the waters to the extent that is necessary to make their irrigation schemes feasible.

"It was to consider this question of the partial distribution that the representatives of Madras and Hyderabad Governments *met in Madras and an agreement was reached. The distribution* of the Tungabhadra waters was not the only outstanding question on which an agreement was necessary with Hyderabad, but there was the question of sharing the cost of a dam and common reservoir. An agreement has also been reached on this point and the whole agreement has been formally ratified by both the Governments.

"Now that the question of the distribution of the Tungabhadra waters has been settled and Madras and Hyderabad have also agreed to share the cost of construction and the maintenance of the dam, the next step will be the preparation of plans and estimates for the dam. In connexion with this and other matters the Chief Engineers held recently a consultation at Hyderabad. The Chief Engineer (Irrigation) has told me that he will ask for a staff for preparing plans and estimates. This division will commence its work only in October next. I may come to the Assembly in next autumn for a small grant of, say, Rs. 20,000 for this purpose. It was not, therefore, considered necessary to make any provision in the Budget Estimates for 1939–40.

"Now to turn from the Rayalaseema to Coimbatore. In last year's Budget discussion Mr. Palaniswami Goundar laid much stress on the Upper Bhavani Project being preferred to the Lower Bhavani Project, and since then several representations were made urging this point of view upon the Government. I, therefore, had the Upper Bhavani Project carefully examined and I also studied the relative merits of both the projects. I discussed the schemes

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several times with the Chief Engineer. I made an extensive tour of the Coimbatore district last month and met the members of the Legislature and other prominent people who are interested in the respective projects and explained the position to them. I also had a consultation at Coimbatore at the end of the tour with some members of the Legislature.

" I have before me a memorandum signed by some of the members of the Legislature. It says:

'From the facts available, it is very doubtful whether we can have water to irrigate more than one lakh acres of land under the Upper Bhavani Project. The cost is prohibitive and the rate that will have to be charged, which even under the old estimate was worked out at Rs. 11-4-0 per acre for one crop, will be too high. Anything more than Rs. 7 or Rs. 8 per acre will not induce the ryot to take water. The representations made by us was mainly to give protection to the middle portion of the district which is subject to frequent scarcity. We should like that as much water as is possible should be made available to this area from the Bhavani and its tributaries as they are the only sources of possible supply to the district. For this purpose we would advocate

(1) the raising of the bund of the Siruvani to as much height as possible and forming the reservoir from which a regulated supply of water may be led into the Noyyal. Irrigation under the Noyyal which is now precarious may be made assured and also additional land to which water can be found, may be added. We hope that 30,000 to 40,000 acres in Coimbatore and Palladam taluks may be benefited by this.
(2) The lower Bhavani project may be sanctioned immediately.
(3) A channel should be taken from the lower Bhavani Project across the Noyyal to the Kangayam division of the Dharapuram taluk which is the worst affected part in the district. If this channel can irrigate some substantial area on either side of the Noyyal, it will be of great help.

'From the information available, we think that the above arrangement will secure the best advantage possible to the district and be also workable from the financial standpoint.'

" I asked the Chief Engineer for Irrigation to give me a note on the two points raised in the above memorandum: (1) to raise the Siruvani dam as much as possible and divert Siruvani water from the channel into the Noyyal to benefit the existing but precarious irrigation under it; (2) to take a channel from the Lower Bhavani Project across the Noyyal to irrigate areas near Kangayam.

" Mr. Dowley, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, has gone on long leave on the 15th instant and so he had hardly any time to deal with the subject exhaustively. Still he has submitted a short note from which I gather that there would be no insurmountable difficulty in meeting the wishes of the hon. Members who have signed the memorandum. Expressed briefly the position is that (*a*) extra water can be diverted from the Siruvani for the benefit of a limited area under the Noyyal when the Lower Bhavani Dam is built; (*b*) water can be taken across the Noyyal to irrigate lands near Kangayam.

" These diversions involve a corresponding reduction in the area at present earmarked for irrigation under the Lower Bhavani

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Project, but such reduction may be justified so that the portions of the district most liable to shortage may benefit.

" The Government have sanctioned a special staff for further investigation of the *Lower Bhavani Project*. The staff has been appointed and has commenced its work.

" The question of irrigation in Malabar has been engaging my attention for more than a year. I have recently visited Palghat, Ponnani, Ernad and Walluvanad taluks and my tour in Palghat was intended particularly to examine the various irrigation proposals that were given up for some reason or other. The Executive Engineer who accompanied me has submitted notes about various projects and has asked for staff for making proper investigation. It may be remembered that all these schemes were examined in the past and rejected. I have asked the Chief Engineer to have them re-examined.

" In this connexion I may mention that there are certain legal difficulties which were repeatedly raised by the Collectors and which also require consideration and decision. Some of these projects are connected with rivers over the beds of which the Government have no proprietary rights and there is a legal difficulty about levying a charge for water supplied to lands for new projects on such rivers. The Revenue Board has recently stated that the resettlement notification allowed enhanced assessment to be levied on lands irrigated by any work constructed by Government during the currency of the resettlement. It is not clear if this resettlement notification covers all the legal difficulties raised in the past. It is necessary to make sure that extra rates can be levied compulsorily on wet or dry lands in all years, good or bad, for water supplied in the first-crop season and also in the second-crop season wherever supply to a second crop is feasible. We find from past records that there are 15 bad years in 50 years when rain fails, when irrigation facilities will be availed of; but in the other 35 years, ryots may not take water and pay for it. It is also necessary to make sure that the proprietary ownership of beds of rivers will not hold up these schemes. The Collector will also have to ascertain from the ryots if they will agree to the levy of an extra water-rate of, say, Rs. 5 per acre over and above all assessments which they pay at present.

" I will deal with other questions in reply to the cut motions of which several members have given notice."

0 * KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHA-
.m. DUR :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 62,43,900 *for Irrigation be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, I have tabled this motion to criticize the policy of the Government regarding Irrigation. The Hon. Minister for Public Works, while moving the Demand, referred to Rayalaseema, then

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travelled to Coimbatore and dwelt at length upon the projects that he is going to start there and then crossed the Western Ghauts and narrated the difficulties of starting any project in Malabar. He stopped there and never referred to South Kanara at all. I wish to ask whether this Government have got any Irrigation policy at all. I do not mean the present Government alone; even the previous Governments had no irrigation policy at all. Are the Government justified in groping in the dark? They have been in office for more than two years and still they say that they are studying the situation. Last year, the Hon. the Premier while speaking about the Agriculturists' Relief Act said that we are robbing Peter to pay Paul. On that occasion, in the sense in which he used the proverb, he was perhaps justified. But what is now being done is to rob the poor man to pay the rich man; to take away from those who have not and give to those who have, is not at all justifiable. Are the people of South Kanara in any way richer than those of Tanjore or Coimbatore? Now, the income from the agricultural lands of South Kanara and Malabar is nearly one-fifth of the entire agricultural income of the Province. Still, what is the amount spent on the West Coast for Irrigation? When they get such a large amount, is it not right and proper for them to spend something there? They spent on the Mettur project Rs. 6½ crores. What is the interest? What is the result? They do not get even 2 per cent on the money spent; it is a huge waste. But that is just to help the people of Tanjore and other places who are much richer than the people of South Kanara, who contribute so much in the shape of land revenue to the coffers of the State.

"The Hon. the Revenue Minister, while replying to the cut motions last year, spoke very sympathetically. He said that he had travelled through the different parts of the Province and seen the districts and realized that there are several taluks which require irrigation works vary badly. He asked for time to study the problem and even now, after the lapse of one year, I do not think anything has been done to help us in that direction. He said that nearly 31,000 minor irrigation works are in charge of the Revenue department. But how many of them I should like to know are in South Kanara or even in Malabar. Not a single one. Ten lakhs of rupees are spent for their maintenance and repairs. 3-45 p.m.
When such huge sums are spent upon these things, is it not mere injustice not to spend anything at all on these districts? The Hon. Minister stated last year that each taluk is divided into several circles and each circle is taken up for investigation in rotation. I ask how many taluks have been divided into circles in South Kanara and how many circles have been taken up either in rotation or at any one time. We have been making representations year after year and nothing has been done and the only excuse seems to be that Malabar has got copious rains and therefore no help is

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needed. Supposing we have heavy rainfall, are any other facilities given to our districts from which a large amount of money is collected by way of taxes instead of irrigation liabilities? When you take so much money from those districts, is it not fair and just that you should spend some money upon those districts in any direction, if not in improving irrigation facilities? With regard to saying that we have copious rains in Malabar and South Kanara, it may be true to some extent, but sometimes such rains destroy all the crops and sometimes these rains do not come in time but they come out of time. Moreover our districts being on the slopes of the Western Ghauts, all the rain-water that flows into the sea carries along with it the manure part of the soil and no attempt is made to conserve the water in any place. Formerly these waters were stored in tanks dug by the Rajas of olden days but they are all in disrepair and nothing has been done to repair them. The Hon. the Minister for Public Works said last year that 50 lakhs of rupees were proposed to be spent for tank restoration scheme and he also said that this item was being postponed year after year. I do not know if he has postponed it last year also. If not, how much of the 50 lakhs of rupees that have been allotted for the tank restoration scheme was spent on South Kanara? Have the Government found out at least if there is any need for such repairs in South Kanara? Have they tried to investigate whether there is any need, whether there is any scope and whether it is possible to investigate such projects? No committee was appointed and not even an Executive Engineer was deputed. When the Hon. Minister visited our districts, I requested him to remain there for a little time so that I might point out to him all the available sources of irrigation, but unfortunately he could not for want of time, but he said that he would soon come again and see what can be done in this direction. But nothing has been done so far. If they do not want to spend much money, let them at least depute an Executive Engineer and take two or three local men for consultation to find out the traces of old tanks that could be usefully repaired and other sources of irrigation that are available and any possible dams that are necessary and will serve our purpose. All this has been neglected and nothing has been done. I hope the Hon. the Revenue Minister and the Hon. the Minister for Public Works will make up their minds in regard to this matter and see that some investigation with regard to major, as well as minor, irrigation works are made in South Kanara. With these few words I move my cut motion."

• K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of two cut motions, one with regard to the Tungabhadra Project and the other with regard to the lack of irrigation facilities in the Kurnool district. Sir, first I want to concentrate my attention on the Tungabhadra Project. When I came here with the intention of participating

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in the discussion, it was my idea to express our deep dissatisfaction at the policy pursued by the Government with regard to this Project. There has been inordinate delay on the part of the Government in the carrying out of this Project. The matter has been under discussion ever since 1877, i.e., the time of Sir Arthur Cotton. Time and again the matter was investigated, enquiries were made and sites were selected and members of the different Governments met, but nothing was done. It is remarkable that a place which is so frequently visited by famines should have been neglected. Anyone who is conversant with the geographical conditions of this Province will certainly agree with me that if there is any part in the Province which requires irrigation facilities, it is the Ceded districts. For instance, the famine of 1877–78 took away one-third of the population of those parts. It is a fact which could move the heart of any Government, but unfortunately this Government of the Province slept over the matter. This matter stands in 1939, in the same condition in which it stood in those good old days.

" The Hon. the Minister for Public Works was pleased to make a statement on the subject and he has told us just now that an agreement has been reached between the Government of Madras and the Government of Hyderabad. I would have gone into raptures over this announcement, but for one circumstance. From the proceedings of the old Madras Legislative Council on this subject, I find that similar agreements were arrived at by the various Governments of this Province from time to time, but in spite of all agreements and in spite of all the understandings that were arrived at between this Government and the various other Governments who are involved in this matter, the Project was not put into execution. I wonder if the present agreement also is going to share the same fate as other previous agreements. With your permission, Sir, I may just point out how the situation has stood from a very long time past up to the present day. In 1930, when Sir Archibald Campbell was in charge of this portfolio, and when this question came up before the Council, he began by saying :—

'I may say there was a special committee which went into the question of irrigation in the Ceded districts, and that we have now under investigation the Tungabhadra project. Investigation has been going on in the meantime and preliminary estimates have been very recently submitted to the Government by the Chief Engineer. I have not had an opportunity of seeing them yet. I may assure my Friend that they will be examined as far as possible.'

In 1930–31, the Hon. Sir Archibald Campbell himself met the Members of His Highness the Nizam's Government but no agreement was announced. In 1932 he announced that an agreement was reached with the three Governments. That was how the matters stood even in 1932. A communiqué was issued in the year 1933 to the effect that Malapuram was selected for the Project. It was also announced that it was the same site which was

selected previously by Mr. Mackenzie and approved by another officer. After all these communiqués were issued, one would expect that the Tungabhadra Project would be put into execution. *Now coming to the year 1934, the same old story is repeated. I* find from the proceedings of the old Legislative Council that an agreement with the Hyderabad Government had not been reached. Sir, if really an agreement had been reached in 1932 and a site selected in 1933, I do not see any reason why the project should have been postponed again. Sir Charles Souter in 1935–36, said that the scheme was urgent and that priority should be given to the Tungabhadra scheme when big schemes were to be undertaken. All honour to that gentleman who was so keen in doing something to the Ceded districts. The Member who had served for a great number of years in those districts and who was so keen over this matter slept over this matter again and in the year 1936 he came forward in the old Council and said that replies had been received from the Hyderabad Government and the Government of India. But the implications of the replies were not examined. That was the situation when the old Government went out of office and when the present Ministry came into power.

"*I am not in a position to say that the present Ministry has* not done anything at all in the matter. It was in the year 1937 that the Hon. Minister for Public Works said that he would not allow grass to grow under his feet over the Tungabhadra Project. The grass has already grown over his feet and they have been trampled upon. In 1938 the Hon. Minister for Public Works again announced that the experiments about the Tungabhadra Project in Siruguppa were promising but that the principal question that was engaging the attentiou of the Government was the distribution of water. The Hon. the Premier also made a statement to the effect that in matters like this hon. Members of this House should not be hasty. May I respectfully submit that this matter has been engaging the attention of the Government for so many years and yet no agreement has been reached and no progress made? Can we be said to be hasty if we press for the execution of the Project at least now?

"I am glad that the Hon. Minister in his statement made just now gave us a definite promise that everything would be done in the autumn next, and that the Government would come forward with additional demands for grants to start the project. I need hardly say that this promise will be received with pleasure in our district.

"There is one more thing and I am done. It is with regard to irrigation facilities in my district. It is not necessary for me to point out, as I have said already, that our districts require immediate attention from the Government with regard to irrigation facilities. I shall give just one example. When the Hon. Minister was pleased to go to our districts, I had occasion of

accompanying him; and when he went to a particular village called the Dharga village in the Cumbum taluk of my district, the people of that village presented him a mahazar to the effect that a particular dam had been damaged as a result of which the crops were suffering. Sir, this particular incident took place about five years back and people had an opportunity of meeting the Hon. Minister and representing their grievances about three years ago to that effect. After this damage to the dam, you can imagine what an amount of difficulty and loss the ryots should have suffered. When they came and made representations to the Hon. Minister about this, they had full hopes that the matter would receive the best consideration of the Government. A mahazar was presented at that time and I was asked to remind the Hon. Minister about this. I did remind him. At the close of the last session I was given to understand that the matter had been engaging the attention of the Government and that the mahazar had gone to the department for notes.

"Sir, may I respectfully submit that if this is the way in which the Irrigation department is going to do its work, I am afraid that people will not only have to sell their properties but also to sell themselves in order to discharge their liabilities? It is very important, Sir, that a thing of this sort should be attended to at once, for after all the monsoon comes once in a year and it is not a question of our getting the monsoons all the twelve months of the year. If it were possible to get it like that, there would be no need for any irrigation facility. We have to store water in the rainy season and necessary arrangements have to be done for the purpose in time. What is the good of the Irrigation department if they do not take any action whatsoever on a mahazar presented to the Hon. Minister and if they do nothing before the commencement of the monsoon? As I have already pointed out, this incident happened four years ago and nothing has been done so far. But the people are expected to pay the taxes all right and if they do not do it, they will have to face the consequences. I submit, Sir, that this is a matter on which the Hon. Minister should bestow some attention. With these remarks, Sir, I second the motion." 4 p.m

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Mr Speaker, I have listened patiently to the long statement made by the Hon. the Minister for Public Works, but I am very sorry to find that there was not a single line in it with regard to the Palar basin. We have been crying hoarse all these years about the step-motherly attention paid to the Palar basin. Member after member on the Government side has been interpellating the Government all these months persistently with reference to this matter, hoping perhaps that he might draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the dire necessity of attending to this Palar

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basin. Sir, the Hon. Minister has some warm corners in his large heart for the Tungabhadra Project intended to relieve the Ceded districts, and for other projects in the Coimbatore area and in the southern districts. But unfortunately, Sir, the central districts like Chingleput and North Arcot with which I am most intimately connected have been left out of consideration altogether. I do not mean to say that the Hon. Minister has been entirely forgetful, but I am only hoping that the time would soon come when he will pay a portion of his attention to the poor ryots of North Arcot and Chingleput and try to resuscitate the Palar basin. Sir, so recently as December last, two hon. Members of this House interpellated the Government on this matter and the Hon. Minister was pleased to say that although the correspondence regarding the Palar basin commenced in 1931, nothing has so far been done. Sir, correspondence has been carried on in a very leisurely fashion between this Goverument and the Mysore Government. Certain particulars regarding the number of tanks in the Palar basin which have been conserved by the Mysore Government to the utter detriment of the tanks in the North Arcot and Chingleput districts were called for from the Mysore Government and that Government protested that it was not possible to comply with the request without an expenditure of considerable time, labour and money. Then the information required was restricted only to a few irrigation sources and villages and we now hear that those particulars have after all been received from the Mysore Government. According to the reply to a question given by the Hon. Minister in December last, the information was received in 1937. The Hon. Minister said:

'These statistics were called for from the Mysore Government in August 1936 and they were received in March 1937. The reports of the Chief Engineer and the Board of Revenue on these statistics have been received and are under consideration.'

Sir, my appeal is that this matter may kindly be looked into at as early a date as possible, because the ryots of North Arcot and Chingleput are in a very sad condition with regard to irrigation facilities.

"Sir, in this connexion it is necessary for me to explain further why these districts are so dependent upon the freshes in the Palar. The freshes in the Palar constitute the only feeding source of our irrigation sources. The river channels are fed by the freshes in the Palar and these river channels feed the tanks and when the tanks are full we get all the wells filled up. This matter will be clear if I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the figures quoted in page 14 of Appendix V to the Season and Crop Report for 1937–38. The figures show that there are very few big tanks in these two districts in charge of the Public Works Department, and that almost all the sources of irrigation are in charge of the Revenue department and may be reckoned

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as minor irrigation sources. If I am not tiring the patience of the House I may be permitted to quote just a few figures to show the necessity of paying attention to this unfortunate Palar basin. Out of about 2,561 works in Chingleput and 2,689 works in North Arcot, only about 200 works in both the districts are in charge of the Public Works department. This shows that only a tenth of the irrigation sources are looked after by the Public Works department while the great majority of them are looked after by the Minor Irrigation department and these minor irrigation sources depend upon the freshes in the Palar. When this is the case, I find to my dismay that in the budget estimates under the head of Minor Irrigation absolutely no provision is made for improvements or extension. Provision is made on the usual lines for maintenance and repairs, but there is no provision for extension and improvements. While the head of 'extension and improvements' appears under the Public Works department, it does not appear under the Minor Irrigation head.

"Sir, so far as these two districts are concerned, we are vitally concerned with extension and improvement. The 'maintenance and repair' that is being done year after year only suffices to repair the damages made by floods and other natural causes, but there is no improvement, no going forward so far as the irrigation sources are concerned. That is my complaint. Sir, we find here a provision of Rs. 9·82 lakhs under maintenance and repairs for the ensuing year, a provision of Rs. 9·24 lakhs in the revised estimate and Rs. 9·57 lakhs in the budget estimate for the current year. The small increase over the provision in the current year's budget is explained to be due to the provision made for the repair of flood damages. That shows, Sir, that we are not going forward at all in the matter of extensions and improvements. 'Extensions and improvements' are very necessary, so far as the North Arcot and Chingleput districts are concerned. I may go a step further and say that the ryots of these two districts have been known for their self-help. Sir, I may point out from the same report that I have quoted that North Arcot tops the list with reference to the number of wells. It stands first in the Presidency with a total of 120,000 wells utilized for the purpose of irrigation. The next district that comes anywhere near North Arcot is Coimbatore with only 97,000 wells. North Arcot stands head and shoulders over all other districts in the Presidency. So also we find that in Chingleput there are 23,000 wells. These wells are not Government wells. Only very few are Government wells and almost the entire lot are private wells. This figure indicates, if anything, that the ryots of North Arcot and Chingleput have been self-supporting to a very considerable extent. God helps those who help themselves and I trust that Government also would come forward to help liberally those who

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help themselves. Sir, in order to help themselves these ryots have gone a little further than merely spending money on wells. They have also spent money in installing oil-engines for the purpose of pumping water. We find that in North Arcot there are 197 units of oil-engines and in Chingleput there are 188 units. Next to Coimbatore, North Arcot and Chingleput take their places. All these facts go to show the dire necessity of the ryots of North Arcot and Chingleput for assured irrigation sources. But they have been denied this benefit for the last several years. We have no other opportunity to come up to the Government and impress upon them the necessity of paying early attention to the Palar basin, except on this occasion in connexion with the budget. I do not think, Sir, sympathetic as the Hon. Minister is, that I should labour the point further. I shall leave it there with a very fervent appeal that he would pay these districts a portion of his attention which has been paid hitherto to big irrigation works

" Sir, the Cauvery-Mettur Project has proved a boon to the ryot population as we know from the Press Communiqué recently issued by the Government which stated that had it not been for the Cauvery-Mettur Project—let alone the return that comes to the Government; I am not at all bothered about the return; I am more concerned about the good that is done to the ryot population—there would have been a disaster in Tanjore and the adjoining districts in the past year in the matter of water-supply. Sir, a similar sympathetic attitude may kindly be shown to the poor voiceless districts of North Arcot and Chingleput. It may be that our district people have not been making any strong demonstrations to the Government with reference to our needs. Demonstrations are not always possible, Sir. We appeal to the Government in the manner best possible for us to do and I hope that the appeal will be met with equal generosity.

-15 p.m. " May next point, Sir, is not local, but it is provincial: it is high time that the Government direct their attention to the desirability of undertaking hydro-electric tube-well irrigation in this Province. It is well known that we in this Province are entirely dependent upon rains, and when rain fails, the freshes in the rivers fail and we are naturally thrown back upon well irrigation. Well irrigation is not easy as the sinking of wells is very costly and very often beyond the means of the ordinary ryot. Therefore it is that other Provinces have gone ahead with hydro-electric tube-well irrigation. I find in an article that appeared in the *Modern Review* of May 1938, a very graphic description regarding the progress made in the Punjab, in the United Provinces and in Bombay and in some other Provinces in regard to this matter. We have not also been slow in this respect: as you are aware, Sir, the Industries department of this Province

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has been labouring for the past fourteen or fifteen years in connexion with this underground irrigation. A number of bore-wells have been sunk year after year and fresh water-sources have been discovered. Very great relief has been given in several centres; but unfortunately, the results of the work of the engineering branch of our Industries department have not received due publication. Had the results been published, I am sure the engineering branch of our Industries department would have been acclaimed as a very true helper of the ryot population. The recent report of the Industries department shows that over 600 bore-wells have been dug and water has been supplied right through the Presidency, commencing from Vizagapatam, East and West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, etc. In all these districts, not only for purposes of irrigation but also for purposes of drinking-water, the Engineering branch has done very commendable work.

"Sir, we are not new to well irrigation. We have already gone ahead in this matter; only, there has not been any sustained attempt to link this water-supply which we have been able to get from the bowels of the earth, with the irrigation schemes. That is the point to which I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister. Now that the hydro-electric schemes are coming into prominence in this Province, and there is a net-work of hydro-electric systems running right through the Province, it is high time that electricity is harnessed to assist the ryots to enlarge their cultivation. If that could be done—it would be easy to do it at a very small cost, I believe—it would be a great boon to the ryots, and I am perfectly sure that we would then be stealing a march over the United Provinces, since our facilities are already there and the Engineering branch of the Industries department has already shown that there are several artesian and sub-artesian bore-wells of very good capacity, from which drinking and irrigable water is available, and it would be easy to harness such sources for irrigation purposes, for the benefit of the ryots.

"As a preliminary to tube-well irrigation, however, I would suggest to the Government the immediate undertaking of a geological survey of the sub-soil sources. Sir, the Industries department some years ago undertook such a survey in the Bellary district; but unfortunately it did not amount to much; because the work was confined to a few taluks of that district. Bellary also, being a black-cotton soil area, did not offer much temptation to the officers to go ahead in connexion with that work. Wherever water was found, it was found to be brackish, and in several cases, the department had to go down very deep, costing a great deal of money. That attempt, therefore was, if I may say so, spasmodic; but if that could be regularized and if a geological survey could be

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undertaken at no distant date and the sub-soil sources determined, it would be quite possible for us to make very good progress in the matter of tube-well irrigation. That would help us to get over water difficulties, due to failure of the monsoons.

"There is one other point to which I would refer before I finish, and that is with regard to the work of the Tank Restoration Party in North Arcot and Chingleput districts. Unfortunately, Sir, we see from the Budget Memorandum that the work of the Tank Restoration Party came to a standstill in the year 1931. From 1931 onwards up to 1939, the work that has been left in arrears in the North Arcot and Chingleput districts, has not been attended to. Even when the party was at work, I had to complain that the work was not being done with alacrity. There was a great deal of leisurely method of work, so that by the time the Tank Restoration Party finished one work and came to another, the first work had again to be attended to. With all that, the Tank Restoration Party ceased to work from 1931, with the result that irrigation sources have gone from bad to worse. We are in a very difficult condition with reference to our tanks. Ryots do as much as possible to keep the tanks in good repair, under kudimaramat labour; and although this kudimaramat labour has now gone out of fashion, the ryots have continued to do their best to co-operate and keep the irrigation sources in as fair a condition as possible. But it is not possible for them to do all that is necessary to restore the tanks to their original condition. Sir, as we know, already the tanks are highly silted up; the feeder channels are also silted up. From year to year, silt spreads in the channels and chokes them, so that it is not possible for them to function as originally intended, with the result that the tanks naturally get smaller supplies and they also get silted up in course of time. This general silting up has been going on for some time and it is not possible to stop that silting up unless the Engineers of the Public Works Department put their heads together and devise ways and means of keeping down this rapid silting up.

"One remedy has been suggested very often in this respect, that since we know that there is this rapid silting up of tanks and irrigation sources and their capacity is going down, there is no other alternative but to face the situation and re-classify the irrigation sources. Sir, I have given a cut motion with reference to this subject of re-classification, and I crave your indulgence to say a word about it. Ryots have been clamouring for such re-classification. A six months' tank hardly retains water for three months; a tank with a capacity of eighteen months' supply hardly gets supply for six months or five months. The Kaveripak tank in North Arcot is supposed to hold eighteen months' supply and irrigate 22 villages; unfortunately, it is not the actual case

now, because it gets a supply which lasts for only five or six months and water does not reach the tail-end villages, with the result that there is a standing complaint on the part of the villagers and demand for remissions. Therefore, Sir, the re-classification of tanks and irrigation sources becomes an urgent matter, and I hope the Hon. Minister will call for reports and do what he can to render justice to the ryots of North Arcot and Chingleput districts. With these words, Sir, I support the motion."

* SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" Mr. Speaker, My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai has spoken elaborately about the subject in which I am interested, namely, the Palar basin, and I need not take up much of the time of the House again; but I think I will be failing in my duty if I do not represent the grievances of my constituency. This is a long-felt need and the Government have failed to take any steps in this matter. The river Palar is the main source of supply of water to the North Arcot and Chingleput districts, but there has been continuous fall in the supply during the past thirty years. The fall is not due to natural causes; it is due to the dam put on the Bethamangalam tank, the source of the river, in Mysore State, and the consequent regulation of the quantity of water. Since the river takes its rise in their territory the Mysore Government claim the right to quench the river and give us the benefit of an uncertain and irregular surplus. This matter should have been tackled effectively at the time the dam was built and an arrangement come to whereby the quantity of water available could be equitably distributed between the Mysore State and the Madras Province; somehow the matter was neglected then, and has been since dealt with, if at all, in a slipshod manner. About seven years ago, a Committee was appointed to deal with the problem, but what happened to the Committee, why it did not function, and who killed it or if it died a natural death due to inanition, are a mystery which is buried in the sterile womb of a dead past. I do not want to recall the policy of supreme unconcern pursued by the irresponsible half of the Dyarchic Executive. Now the Congress Government which is fully autonomous, at any rate in regard to irrigation, can take up the matter in right earnest. On behalf of my fellowmen in my district and Chingleput I call upon the Government to open negotiations with the Mysore Government with a view to securing to these districts a continuous supply, year in and year out, of that quantity of water which nature was vouchsafing before the dam was built. People in these districts expect the Government to do their duty by them in this matter of vital importance to their welfare and continued prosperity; it is a matter which can brook no more delay; most of the tanks in the Palar basin do not obtain an adequate supply because the river itself is spoon-fed by the Mysore authorities.

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The present Government have done well in the negotiations relating to the Tungabhadra Project, and I urge them to do likewise as regards Palar also.

"I invite the attention of this House and through it that of the Ministry, to the deplorably bad condition of our irrigation tanks, supply channels and anicuts. I believe a dutiful and responsible Government and a loyal and conscientious officialdom can do much to mitigate the vagaries of nature, such as poor rains, by keeping the tanks and the supply channels in a fit condition. Much of the water that flows through a silted up channel and drains into a silted up tank, sinks into earth where it is least useful. I am afraid the Government have not realized the tragic unwisdom of a policy of penny-wise parsimony; they do not appear to understand that money spent on irrigation works will come back to them with compound interest; to grudge such expenditure is nothing short of starving the milch cow. For the maintenance and repairs of the tanks and supply channels under the Poiney
-30 p.m. Anicut system, a sum of Rs. 20,000 is provided which is short by Rs. 16,000; and for the Palar Anicut System Rs. 56,600 is provided which is short by Rs. 5,300. It is of paramount importance that the tanks and channels should be maintained in a sound condition, that the supply channels should perform their function effectively and unimpeded by silt, and the tanks should receive and retain as much water as possible so that every drop of water is made to serve a beneficent purpose.

"I may in this connexion refer to the conferences of Public Works Department officials, Revenue officials and ryots in every Revenue division held annually to discuss irrigation problems. It is obvious that the object of the conference is to give the ryot an opportunity to place his difficulties before the officials and for the latter to get to know the problem in detail. Such conferences have met for many years but nothing has come out of them so far. Not even the human relationship between the ryot and the official, the master and the servant in theory but the reverse in fact, has improved. The ryot's wants are noted and recorded. They are seldom met and supplied. The conference serves only one purpose; it provides for the official an occasion to display his authority ostentatiously. It entails waste of precious public money and the ryots' valuable time and more valuable energy. I suggest that the Minister should either mend the conference method, if it can be mended, or end the farce altogether. With these few words I support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mahmud Schamnad Sahib."

* MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, my cut motion relates to the inundation and the havoc that is caused by the Torrigedda river. This is no doubt a local grievance relating to the East Godavari district, but the amount of suffering and

devastation that it entails is so great that we all expected that the Government would have taken up this project at an early date. In 1937, about the month of November the Hon. the Minister for Public Works visited the area at the time when all the place was devastated and I was told that he was much moved to see the havoc caused. Sir, every year about the month of July the water in the Torrigedda river inundates into the adjoining land and thousands of acres of land are under water; as a result of this the ryots suffer. There is a small hillock near by and during that period all the ryots cross the river and go there with all their family and children and cattle and with other property; and such of them as could not cross the river and go to the hillock suffer great loss in respect of their property, cattle and crops. The result of this havoc is pestilence and famine. At the time the Hon. Minister visited, the people waited on him and presented memorials, and he assured them that in the 1938 Budget the project would be included. I think this havoc and suffering is probably not unknown to the Hon. the Revenue Minister. He has been visiting that area now and then and I think he visited that particular area even last year. I thought he also would have pressed the needs of these poor ryots. When this matter was brought up before this House during the 1938 Budget, it was given out that there was delay in the preparation of the estimates by the department and that it would be taken up as early as possible. But, when we looked into this year's Budget, there was a feeling of very, very keen disappointment in the minds of the ryots to see that it was not included even in this year's Budget. On the other hand, to-day, the Hon. the Minister for Public Works has been pleased to advise us to be patient for one more year. Of course, one more year is not a long period, although perhaps the patient will die before the medicine is brought. But still, Sir, if an assurance is given—of course not like the assurance given last year—that he is sure to take up the project at least next year, there will be a sigh of relief felt by poor sufferers. I therefore appeal to the Hon. Minister for Public Works not to forget the thing, but to include this project at least in the next year's Budget."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan has very exhaustively put before this House the needs of the Rayalaseema districts and so I need not go into the details. But I only wish to point out a few of the difficulties of these districts. Sir, the Ministry is aware of the fact that the people living in the Ceded districts are very quiet and peace-loving citizens; and the Ministers in their tours must have understood that these people have not demonstrated either to the Government officials or to the Ministers as to their difficulties. Now, Sir, we see all over the country, especially in Madras, during the last three days, so much of agitation going on about

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the taxation measures of the Government, and last time when I came to Madras I saw so much of agitation against the Hindi movement; we also see from the newspapers that in the South and in the Circars there is so much of agitation going on about their rights; but we do not find any such agitation from the people of our districts, namely, the Ceded districts. Sir, in spite of the recurring famines, there has been no agitation or hartal of any kind from our districts and there was also no anti-Hindi movement from our districts; and even for the present taxation measures there is not even a murmur from these people. I therefore want to ask the present Government, what have this Government done for such peace-loving citizens of these districts? What have this or even the previous Governments done in regard to the irrigation needs of our districts? The hon. Member, the Mover of the cut motion has detailed the grievances and referred to various reports of the previous Governments. I know, as a matter of fact, the late Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar who as a Minister of the Madras Government and also as retired Chief Engineer had so much of experience of our districts, submitted to the past Government a very comprehensive report wherein he pointed out that many minor irrigation schemes could be profitably undertaken for the use of the people. But, Sir, not a single useful irrigation scheme has been taken up to the present day. We were talking about the Tungabhadra Project for nearly two or three decades past, even from the time when we were boys studying in the school; and the then Government said that a big project in the Nallamalais called the Velgode Project would be brought into effect. Afterwards the successive Governments that were in office never cared to examine the scheme or undertake any such minor irrigation projects.

"Sir, one fact I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Public Works. Last month I had occasion to represent to the Executive Engineer of the Kurnool district the difficulties of the ryots in regard to water coming into the small tanks along with the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal. Along the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal there are various classes of wet lands; there are lands which get water for a single crop, double crop, etc. As a matter of fact, lands which are paying double rates of assessment because of double crop are not at all getting water for their second crop. In this connexion the local Members of the Legislative Assembly including myself made representations to the Executive Engineer and the Assistant Engineer in that part of the district, but even up to the present day, I am given to understand that these people are not getting their water-supply. We hope the present Government and the Ministers, who are very accessible to all kinds of people, would take up these humble petitions of the people and consider them sympathetically and we also hope that the subordinate officers who are not so easily

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accessible, will find easy solution of these problems which benefit the ryot immensely. With these few words, I support the cut motion."

* SRI P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU:—" Mr. Speaker, I rise only to call the attention of the Government to a project known as the Kistna Reservoir Project. This project was conceived about the year 1914 and it was also estimated, and received the sanction of the Government of India and the Secretary of State for India but it has receded into the background somehow or other and has not since seen the light of day. Several projects which were subsequently estimated have since been executed and completed, but an important and gigantic project like the Kistna Reservoir Project is yet to be executed by the present Government. About the possibilities of this project, I think, it could irrigate a very large area, about a million acres in the districts of Guntur, Nellore and a portion of the Ceded districts also; and the area contemplated under the scheme of the Tungabhadra Project for which there is so much of agitation can to an extent also be irrigated by this project. The irrigational policy of the previous Governments had been marked by the execution of irrigation schemes once in two or three decades and followed by an interregnum of masterly inactivity. As a matter of fact as every hon. Member knows, the major projects of Kistna, Godavari and Cauvery had been executed many decades ago, and the Government have not since taken up any irrigation project in the nature of a major project and the result has been a long period of masterly inactivity in regard to the irrigational achievements of the Government. The scheme known as the Mettur Project which was estimated about the year 1918 or so was taken up about the year 1920 and had been accomplished during the past regime. Since then, no effort worth mentioning has been made by the Irrigation department to provide irrigation facilities for this Province.

" I need not, Sir, try to emphasize the importance of securing water to the agriculturists in this Province. That more than marketing facilities, manurial treatment of the soil and improved methods of agriculture, the importance of securing water to the agriculturist is a means of raising the productive power of the land, it is needless for me to emphasize. The project, Sir, that I refer to, namely, the Kistna Reservoir Project, would cost about Rs. 834 lakhs and now that the debt position of the Government is very sound, I fail to see any reason why the Government should follow a halting policy in the matter of executing major schemes of irrigation. I do not share the views of those who in season and out of season advise the Government to be very cautious in the matter of borrowing for schemes of a productive nature as irrigation and electricity. After all, even if the Government

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borrow some 20 crores more, the debt position of this Province will be very sound and since all such schemes are going to be productive, such schemes, besides discharging the interest on the capital invested would yield an encouraging return to the Government to augment their revenues. For example, the Godavari Project is now giving a return of 18 per cent. If the Government follow a more forward policy these schemes besides improving the economic position of the agriculturists in the Province would also augment the revenues of the Government. I plead, therefore, for a bold departure on the part of this Government from the old irrigation policy of taking up a scheme once in two or three decades and then lapsing into a policy of masterly inactivity as if the Government fell into a stupor. I appeal therefore for a very bold departure from the old policy and a forward irrigational policy so that the arid deserts in our Province may be converted into smiling fields with the irrigation facilities provided by the Government. I urge that the Government should examine these schemes before they launch upon their next irrigation scheme in the Province.''

* V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"மேன்மைதங்கிய ஸ்பீகர் (Speaker) அவர்களே, திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா தாமிரவர்ணி நதியின் சானல்கள் (Channel) சரியாய் கவனிக்கப்படாமல் மேடு பள்ளமாயிருப்பதால் தண்ணீர் சரியாய் போக மார்க்கமில்லாது, நன்செய்களுக்குத் தண்ணீர் பாய்வதற்கில்லாமல் கஷ்டமுண்டாயிருக்கிறது. மேற்படி வாய்க்கால்களில் தண்ணீர் சரியாய்ப் பாயாமல் போய்விடுவதைக் கவனித்து, வேண்டிய மராமத்து செய்து மேடு பள்ளங்களைச் சரிப்படுத்தி தக்கது செய்யவேண்டுமெனக் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

"தாமிரவர்ணி நதித் தண்ணீர் பாயக்கூடிய சில நஞ்சை நிலங்களை வாட்டர் ரேட்டுக்காக கொண்டுவந்து, இரண்டு மடங்கு தீர்வை போட்டு ஜனங்களைக் கஷ்டப்படுத்தி வசூல் செய்கிறார்கள். மேற்படி நிலங்களுக்கு அந்த மாதிரி தண்ணீர் தீர்வை அதிகமாக வசூலிக்காமலிருக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். அதற்குத்தக்க ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யவேண்டிக் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Mr. Schamnad in his usual way complained about the step-motherly treatment that is alleged to be given to South Kanara in the matter of irrigation. But I have one consolation in that he said that this complaint he has been repeating for years against the previous Governments also. This is not a new thing. Let me tell him one thing. Every representative of a constituency thinks that he must always attack the Government and must always draw the attention of the Government to something or other and be always grumbling that the Government have neglected these things, so that he may tell his people that he has done his duty and has been doing his duty but that the Government paid no attention to his representations, and that it was not his fault, that these grievances remained unredressed. Mr. Schamnad and other members of South Kanara and Malabar have been getting

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stereo-typed replies from the Government, in the matter of irrigation. Why do they not take that reply to their constituencies? Why do they not tell them that they are convinced that Government cannot do anything in the matter? As far as irrigation in South Kanara is concerned, it has been pointed out over and over again that owing to the peculiar conditions of that district, no irrigation is possible. There is plentiful rain during certain seasons of the year but then water could not be conserved and utilized. The space between the sea and the Western Ghauts is so narrow that if any storage of water is done, it can only be done on a very small scale; it cannot be done on any large scale. Last year, I said that I would study this question and I have done so. I have also got the reports of irrigation work in Cochin and Travancore where conditions are similar to those that prevail in Malabar and South Kanara. I have perused the notes of the Revenue Board and Irrigation Development Board and they all confirm the view that no irrigation is possible in South Kanara district. What little can be done on a small scale will not serve any useful purpose. There is no possibility of any big project. I would ask my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad to place before the Government any scheme that he may have in view and then ask the Government to look into it, to examine it and to undertake it, if found feasible. I give him one year's time to place before the Government some specific proposals and I will have them examined and I will tell him whether the schemes are feasible or not. If the schemes brought before us are not found to be feasible upon examination he must acknowledge that fact and drop the matter. There is no use of nursing perpetual grievances against the Government even when the members are convinced that it is not possible for Government to do anything in the matter.

"I must say, Sir, that I am very much disappointed with the speech that Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan has made this afternoon. I always credited him with a broad outlook; he generally viewed things in an optimistic way and he never grumbled unless he had very good reasons for it. He is aware that several meetings were held all over the Rayalaseema and the Government were profusely thanked for the agreement that was arrived at with Hyderabad. The history of the Tungabhadra Project that Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan has recited now would have been quite proper if it had formed part of his 1937 speech, but now it is out of place; for, he must now confine himself to the history of the Project as it has evolved since we have come into office. It is true I said year before last that I would not allow grass to grow under my feet and I should tell him now that I have carried out that promise literally and he must realize that this agreement with Hyderabad has not been arrived at without great difficulty."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am thankful to the Hon. Minister for his efforts."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" People who have passed resolutions thanking the Government for this achievement have since then expressed their disappointment that no provision has been made in the Budget for the Tungabhadra project. I am surprised that Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan has also spoken in the same strain. After hearing my speech, he should have set aside the speech that he had prepared to deliver beforehand. Let me point out to him and others that such big schemes cannot be taken in hand and proceeded with at once. Now that the great obstacle about the distribution of the water has been removed, now that this big problem has been settled, it can no longer be said that because Hyderabad has not come to any agreement, we cannot proceed any further. Our Chief Engineer had been to Hyderabad recently; he had a discussion there with Hyderabad officials and several points had to be cleared, viz., the question of building the dam, who should build the dam, whether both Governments together have to do it or it should be built by one Government and supervised by the other Government, what is the procedure if it is to be done jointly, who is to prepare the plans and estimates, whether it is to be done by one Government and checked by the other. Do not all these require time? The agreement had been ratified in the month of February; and did hon. Members expect that I would have the scheme ready to be taken up at once and I would come to you in the month of March for some lakhs of rupees for expenditure in 1939–40? I have already said that a special staff will be sanctioned and they will work at estimates and design for six months from October next. I will come to you later on for a special grant of Rs. 20,000 or so for that purpose. That accounts for the fact why there is no provision in the Budget. At the same time I must warn the House that though the question of the distribution of the waters and the construction of the dam has been settled, some big questions yet remain to be decided, namely, the reaction of the soil to irrigation and so on. These matters have also to be studied and both Governments are studying them.

" My hon. Friend referred to Sirguppa experimental farm. When I visited it I no doubt said that the results appeared to be very promising; but two years' experiment is not enough and we have ordered that this experiment should be carried out
m. for a further period of three years. We are getting reports after reports; expectations raised in one report are sometimes falsified in the next report, and experiment is being carried on further from stage to stage. But I may say this: at the same time when the experiments are being carried on in several directions, we will go on with the preliminary work of preparation of plans, etc., and that work is not very easy in its character

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"Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan referred to one matter to which my attention was drawn at the time I visited Kurnool district. And he said that no reply has been given yet. When he came here last time and made inquiries, he was told by me that the report has not yet come from the Chief Engineer about it, and he complains that there is great delay. I know in this instance there has been delay, and also in many other instances. Every one thinks, that if he makes a representation about a matter, the Government will carry it out at once, and he will get an order from this department immediately."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the time taken in this matter is not one or two months; it is a period of one and a half years."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"One and a half years only! But he must also remember that I have toured all the 25 districts and have visited hundreds of places and I have received petitions in all places from all sorts of people about all sorts of matter and the petitions were so numerous that they made a very big heap; so much so that the staff in the Secretariat complains of over-work and the heads of departments have asked for more staff. The Chief Engineers have represented that the number of petitions in the time of the popular Government has grown tremendously, and that there is not sufficient staff to cope with the increased work. We have sanctioned additional staff for the Secretariat as well as for the Chief Engineer's office to cope with extra work. When you bring a matter to my notice, I bring it to the notice of the Secretary, who passes it on to the Chief Engineer, and he in his turn sends it to the Superintending Engineer who places it in the hands of the Executive Engineer, and perhaps he in his turn refers it to the Assistant Engineer. At every stage it takes some time as every one of those officershas to devote some time over the matter. Therefore the petitions take time for disposal; and therefore no complaint of time is justified. In this Government delay has been reduced very, very much, and if in two years' time you can get a proposal accepted by Government, it should be a matter for congratulation and not for complaint.

"Mr. Appadurai Pillai has complained that while I have spoken about Rayalaseema, about Coimbatore and so on, I made no mention of Palar. My first statement was not intended to cover the whole ground and all irrigation matters and projects in South India. In fact I have made no mention of the Godavari, no mention about the Kistna, about Mettur or Cauvery, about Periyar—nothing about these things. I simply explained the implications of this Demand. I have said what projects we have taken up and so on. At the same time I was expected to say something about certain outstanding questions like Tungabhadra.

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Upper and Lower Bhavani and Malabar irrigation, and I have accordingly made a statement in the House on these subjects. I have made no mention about the Palar but I said I will deal with the questions that will arise out of the cut motions in my reply. About Palar I must confess I feel helpless. Not only myself but my department also feels helpless. I have studied the whole affair, read, read and read and tried to find some way out to make the Palar irrigate more area and give better service to its ayacut. I must confess that I have not come to the stage that I could say I now feel my ground. A member has referred to a committee that was appointed seven years ago; it sat for a few days, and then it ceased to exist and it was dead long ago, and nothing has come out of it. Do you know why? Because that committee also felt itself helpless. Mr. Appadurai Pillai has got long experience of Government service. I shall feel myself very much obliged to him if he will kindly go over to my office and tell me in what way I can get over this difficulty. I will place the whole file in his hands. I can trust him, I can take him into my confidence. I will be glad to receive his suggestions that may prove helpful. Several people approached me and said that a conference is going to be held on the 26th April, and I have agreed to attend that conference. I am sure Mr. Appadurai Pillai will take a leading part along with other people of North Arcot, Chingleput and Chittoor districts, so that some way may be found to improve the Palar irrigation system. We are prepared to do as much as we can within the limitations to which the Palar system is subjected.

"Satisfaction has been expressed by one member about the press communiqué that has been lately issued about the Cauvery-Mettur irrigation system, and I am very glad that Government press communiqués are found useful and are appreciated. They have much educative value and people are asked to co-operate with the Government and make the project more useful. We have also mentioned how people can make better use of the water, also what resources are available for irrigation and how the system can be better used than heretofore.

"Mr. Appadurai Pillai also stated that in places where there are no irrigation sources bore-wells may be dug, and that bore-wells should be utilized for irrigation purposes to a larger extent, especially in places where there is much scarcity of water and where cheap electricity is available. He has paid a well-deserved compliment to the Industries Department for the good work which it has done in giving help to the people in boring wells. In this connexion I wish to point out that the Government have dug a well in the Cuddapah district and that well has proved a great success. We found water as deep as 400 feet, and we are trying to induce people there to take up land on cheap

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terms from the Government and irrigate it and we are demonstrating to them how bore-wells could be dug at what cost and how much water can be made available, and how to utilize it for irrigation. It should be remembered that bore-wells can only 5- be dug by individual landholders. The Governmen. cannot bore wells and let them out. No system could be arranged by which water can be given by Government from the bore-wells to the parties. At any rate that is not found to be feasible. He has also referred to the sub-soil survey as a preliminary to the introduction of bore-well irrigation. On this subject the Chief Engineer has expressed the following views:—

'Generally speaking, valuable crops must be grown under tube wells to justify the expense of sinking and working them. In Madras, there are still several reservoir projects to be developed and, generally speaking, it must be cheaper and more economical to grow crops on a large scale with water from a reservoir than with water supplied by tube wells. I consider that at present and for some time to come, large scale development of irrigation by tube wells managed and controlled by Government is almost certain to be a failure. While the idea may be fostered and encouraged, we must move warily until we are sure of our ground. Irrigation by tube wells is essentially a matter for the individual ryot. Government may sink trial tube wells for demonstration purposes. If ryots are satisfied by the demonstration they will do the rest.'

"Mr. Appadurai Pillai and some hon. Members also have spoken about Tank Restoration Schemes. I did say last year that a provision would be made for the Tank Restoration Scheme and at least that it might be started in certain selected areas. If the whole scheme is to be taken up it will cost about Rs. 60 lakhs; but that was out of the question. Tank restoration in certain specified areas was considered, but that also our finances do not allow us to take up this year. So this must remain in abeyance until we are in a better position to take it up. In the meanwhile in the minor irrigation department which is under the control of the Revenue department much is being done about restoring tanks.

"Mr. Akram Ali has been very pathetic about Torrigedda. I feel myself very sore about it. I do recognize that the Torrigedda grievance must be removed as soon as possible and, as I have said in my statement, this and some other projects are before us; and if money is realized by the Sales and other taxes to the extent expected this will be the first thing to be taken up.

"Dr. Samuel said: 'The people of Kurnool are a peace-loving people; they do not agitate, they do not give any trouble to Government, there is no anti-Hindi movement there, and yet practically nothing is being done to provide irrigation facilities for the Kurnool district.' I wish to express my sympathy with him and with other hon. Members from Kurnool. As has been pointed out there are several difficulties in the way. If irrigation facilities in Kurnool district are not available to the desirable extent, it is, as I shall show it to you, not the fault of the Government. For example several projects were investigated in Kurnool district—Markapur

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tank costing Rs. 1.29 lakhs, Siddapur tank costing Rs. 8.04 lakhs, Venkatapuram tank costing Rs. 3·85 lakhs, Kocheruvu tank costing Rs. 1·36 lakhs. These projects were taken in hand and they have now been completed. This shows that the Government have not been quite unmindful of the requirements of Kurnool. Two other projects, Duvvaleru project and Tippayapalem project, both costing Rs. 5·82 lakhs are in progress. Certain other projects had to be abandoned, because they were not at all feasible. They were examined and abandoned. The cost also was prohibitive. For example the cost of Thokapalle project was Rs. 21 lakhs, Gazuladinne reservoir Rs. 13,33,000, Gudempad reservoir Rs. 2,40,000. They were all abandoned because, the benefit that the people would have derived from them was not commensurate with the costs of the projects. So I think this will prove to the people of Kurnool that Government have given all possible attention; and if the results have not been more encouraging, it is not the fault of the Government. Even now if the attention of Government is drawn to any particular project, it will be examined and seen whether it is feasible or not.

" Mr. Buchappa Nayudu wants the Kistna Reservoir Project to be taken up. He says, 'Government are neglecting this; while they have paid attention to other things, they have neglected the Kistna Reservoir Project.' He says that all irrigation projects are old projects. The Godavari, the Kistna and other systems, they are all old projects; it is only the Cauvery-Mettur Project that has been taken up recently. He advises that the Government should have a more forward policy. Mr. Buchappa Nayudu perhaps thinks that irrigation projects costing several crores, not lakhs, are such easy works that every five or six years one project could be conceived, planned and taken up by Government. The Kistna reservoir was thrown in the back ground by the previous Government. I have brought it out from the old shelf where it was rotting and it is now standing on my table. It is receiving attention and its turn also will come when we have attended to more pressing needs. Kistna is a great system, one of the biggest irrigation systems, and much land is being irrigated by the river Kistna; but the proposed reservoir will provide additional advantages and its turn will also come. Probably it may be coming sooner than Mr. Buchappa Nayudu thinks.

" One gentleman from Tinnevelly has drawn my attention to a certain channel of Tambaraparni which is said to be silted up. If he will kindly send me a note about it, I shall see that it is examined and do what is possible, if anything is possible, about it. I think I have covered all the points raised by various speakers and I hope that the cut motion will be withdrawn and the grant passed."

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KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the sympathetic reply of the Hon. Minister that if a proper scheme is placed before him he would consider it before next year, I may be allowed to withdraw the cut motion, Sir."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES, MINISTERS AND HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 19,13,300 *under Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters staff.*'

"There is nothing for me to say in advance, Sir. With your permission I shall await the discussion on the motion."

[At this stage the Deputy Speaker (Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi) occupied the Chair.] 5-30 p.m.

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 19,13,300 *for Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff be reduced by Rs.* 100.

"In doing so I may state at the outset that I do not propose to talk very long over this motion. I fully realise that the time for the discussion of this Demand—a very important one—is limited; and I also realize that the number of hon. Members who have given notice of their intention to speak on this motion is fairly large. Further in the present state of my health, I am afraid I may not have the energy to deal with this question at such length as the subject requires. Madam, Deputy Speaker, there is only one aspect of the question that I propose to deal with and it is this. The Government which rule over this country of ours are supposed to be a democratic Government. Let me examine to what extent the Ministry of the Madras Government have tried or have acted up to the traditions of democratic Governments. My own point of view is that in every possible manner they have been acting against all canons of democracy.

"First and foremost, the question that I should like to refer to is, what is the authority to which they look for their guidance? My submission is that a democratic Government which owes its position, its authority, its power to the people, which derives its strength by reason of the votes which it secured at the last elections, should look to them for guidance as to their policy. It should be the aim of any democratic Government to take with them the people. From them it is that the inspiration for any new policies

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and programmes should come, or at least you should represent them as far as possible. During the course of the general discussion certain members on this side of the House complained—and it seems to me quite rightly—that far from turning to the people to whom you owe your position, far from acting in their best interests, in all your actions, in all your doings, in all your programmes, in all your policies, you take orders, so to say, from an outside authority, an authority altogether foreign to this country, an authority which in some quarters is described as the High Command of the Congress; and the High Command of the Congress at the present moment is almost concentrated in one individual. I believe the point was referred to during the course of the general discussion by my friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan. Immediately the Prime Minister adopted his usual superior tone (The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar: Please do not say that) and began to talk of such a statement being improper, being a statement which ought not to have been made by any responsible member of this House, that it was a wrong statement to make, and things in that strain. All that I have got to say is this. Why not the Hon. the Prime Minister reserve this advice, instead of delivering these lectures to the Opposition, for his own colleagues, I mean the other occupants of the Treasury Bench who, by their utterances, give us room for making these statement? We say it not without any foundation. Your colleagues make speeches in various places. Those speeches are reported. A general impression is formed, and we as a part of the public form that impression and we give expression to that impression here.

" By way of illustration I shall refer to only one incident and pass on to my next point. And that one incident brings me to my Hon. Friend, the Hon. the Minister for Education. In passing Madam, may I crave your permission to state that it does my heart good to see the Hon. Mr. Varkey on the Treasury Bench? I am sure I give expression to the feelings of the whole of the community, the Indian Christian community which I have the honour to represent here; a feeling of gratification at the fact, not merely that Mr. Varkey occupies the place, but gratification mainly because of the fact that even the Congress has come to recognize the existence in this country of a community like the Indian Christian community. As regards my Hon. Friend, Mr. C. J. Varkey, I am sure he will prove himself worthy of the place that has been allotted to him. I have always had the highest admiration for his capacity for work, a capacity which is almost phenomenal. I have admired his enthusiasm for any cause he took up. He is as enthusiastic about the Congress cause to-day as he had been in earlier days for other causes which he has advocated. His enthusiasm, his unlimited capacity for work and his intelligence of an order much above the average, will all be at the disposal of the

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Government and I am sure he will prove equal to any task he takes up. He has many virtues—wonderful virtues. But, unfortunately tact is not one of them. The other day while at Palghat presiding over the Palghat Victoria College day celebrations, a representation was made to him that the usefulness of the college should be developed in such a manner as to include courses of science. Mr. Varkey replied—he does not know how to camaflouge things; he is not capable of having one thing in his mind and saying another—'I am all in favour of improving this college; I am all in favour of introducing the science departments; true, it is a Government college; and therefore, Government money must be spent. But what are we to do? Mahatma Gandhi is opposed to Government money being spent on college education. That stands in the way of my giving you a definite promise. But this much of promise I give you and that is we will try and persuade Mahatma Gandhi to agree to our spending money at least as far as the Victoria College of Palghat is concerned.' Well, I ask the Hon. the Prime Minister if with that statement of his colleague before him, it lies in his mouth, to charge us with making a wrong statement, an improper statement, without a real sense of our responsibility when we say that you, the Congress Ministers of the Madras Government, do not look to the people of the Province for what you are doing but look to your High Command which is concentrated in the hands of one single individual, however eminent and able he might be. If you are going to accept the dictates from outside this land, do it by all means. But do not call this Government a democratic Government, but some other form of Government. Madam Deputy Speaker, I shall content myself with this one instance on this question and pass on to my next point.

"As I understand democratic Governments, one of the canons of democracy is for the Government to show regard to the Opposition, to treat the members of the Opposition as gentlemen. Fight them by all means. Fight them in the Press. Fight them on the platform. But, fight them on equal grounds. That has been the policy, if I understand democracy, in all democratic forms of Government. True, in certain countries, all Opposition is shut out. The Opposition is crushed down. Opponents are put out of the way, put out of the way in segregation camps or by more summary methods. But countries in which that sort of thing obtains are not ruled by democratic forms of Government. They have got a different name, which the Congress would not be proud of. They are called 'Totalitarian States.' They are not States ruled by democracies. It might be said: 'Whom have we put out of the way? We have no segregation camps. We have not sent any one to the gallows. We have not beheaded any one.' Thanks for small mercies. But even there the virtue does not lie

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with you. Fortunately for us on this side of the House, not merely on this side of the House—we are very small here—but the millions of the country as whose spokesman we are here, we have not been dealt with in that manner because there is fortunately for us the Government of India Act with the safeguards still in them. But short of putting us out of the way, how have the members of the Opposition been treated? When I say members of the Opposition, I do not confine myself to those of us who are sitting here, but I talk of those in the country, those of the public who are opposed to your policy. They are millions in number. Their leaders—where are they now? How are you dealing with them? Do you treat them as gentlemen? Do you treat them as men of equal status with you? Do you deal with them as men who may occupy in time your present places. Where is Periyar Ramaswami Naicker, the adored leader of the millions of the Southern districts? In prison! What for? His case is still pending appeal and therefore I shall not deal with the merits of the case. Have you been dealing with him properly? Madam, Deputy Speaker, we have recently been hearing so much about plighted word being broken, consequent fasts and such other things. May I not remind the Hon. the Prime Minister of the question which was put to his Colleague, the then acting Minister for Courts and Prisons, Mr. Ramanathan as to whether Periyar Ramaswami Naicker would be allowed to be free to preside over that momentous session of the South Indian Liberal Federation, the confederation which was held on the 29th, 30th and 31st of December last? Madam, Deputy Speaker, you would remember also the reply. It was: 'The matter will be considered.' In all civilized Governments that is almost as good as a promise. To be precise the answer was, I believe, 'The hon. Member's request will be considered.' This was only eight days before the confederation. The same day the Hon. the Prime Minister said jokingly in a very friendly spirit that there was little prospeet of any portion of the Rs. 2,000 which had been imposed as fine on Mr. Naicker being recovered. What has happened since then? The answers were given on the 20th of December. To-day is the 18th of March; three months have passed. People collected on the Island Grounds in their tens of thousands. Our tears were so much allayed by the implied promise of the Hon. Minister that we were hoping that Periyar Ramaswami Naicker would be released. The confederation has come and gone. The word of the Hon. the Minister for Public Information was there. Well, Periyar Ramaswami Naicker instead of being in the Penitentiary in Madras has been sent to the 'salubrious' climate of Bellary. And that is a point that n. I shall deal with later on. As regards the fine not being recovered, his old car worth about a few hundred rupees

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which was lying idle in a garage in Erode has been attached for part realization of the fine, which the Premier said he had no hope of recovering. Well, instead of releasing him, these are the steps that are being taken. The promise by Mr. Ramanathan—I mean the implied promise—the Premier disposed of in this way. He was sent out of the General Hospital. It was published in the papers that on an undertaking taken from him he was temporarily released. Three days later there was a contradiction by the Premier that there was no such thing as 'temporary release.' Why then was a bond taken? Was it one more step in the process of humiliating a person who happens to differ from you in his views? Next he was sent away to Bellary, 350 miles away from Madras, an additional 350 miles away from his relations in Erode. The Minister for Courts and Prisons—I believe now the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan—on his way back from Tripuri was good enough to alight and pay a 'courtesy visit' to Periyar Ramaswami Naicker, and a statement not from him but in the Press is given that Periyar is perfectly happy and contented, apparently implying that we who agitated against his removal are so many fools. Is it your idea or is it your suggestion, I ask, that you have placed Periyar there more to suit his own convenience? Was not that done with a view to cause him mental annoyance, if not also physical discomfort? Was it not to take him away from Madras, where there is chance of friends meeting him? If, as it now seems to be the suggestion, Periyar is perfectly contented with Bellary itself, may I make a sporting offer to the Government to give Mr. Ramaswami Naicker the choice of the place as to where he will be. What is the harm in their doing it? Of course, there is the reply available to the Government: a prisoner is a prisoner and a prisoner cannot be given the choice of the place where he will be incarcerated as a prisoner; a prisoner will have to be in a place where he is imprisoned. As to the legality of such a position, I have nothing to say. You are perfectly within your legal rights in making that statement, but all that I can say is that Shylock was as much within his legal rights when he demanded his pound of flesh. Is Periyar an ordinary prisoner? Is he a felon? Is he a perjurer? Is he a forger? Has he picked anybody's pocket? Did he commit any murder? What is it then that he has done to deserve this? He has differed from you in certain political convictions of his and he has carried on an agitation in the country against your views. By an accident, you happen to be in the position of power which enables you to keep him in confinement. Is there anything more than that? Is this any justification for treating political opponents in the manner you are doing?

"Apart from Periyar let me take up the case of that unfortunate young boy who died in the General Hospital towards the end of last year, Natarajan. He died. Whatever the fault might be

which made him a prisoner, he died under circumstances which evoked the sympathy of everybody. When that question was raised, one would have expected at least a sympathetic answer from a gentleman so kind-hearted as the Hon. the Premier. In the absence of sympathy, silence would have been the least that could have been expected. But what was the treatment that particular question received at the hands of the Premier? The answer was trotted out that the youth who had joined the anti-Hindi movement and died, was illiterate. What is the relevancy about the literacy or the illiteracy of that young man who died in the hospital? You retained him as a prisoner till the bitterest moment. You did not give him the consolation of dying in the arms of his parents and in the midst of people dear to him and in surroundings to which he was accustomed. The man was dying. He was suffering from an incurable disease. He was to expire at any moment. Was it not ordinary humanity to give him to his parents, so that the poor boy may die in the surroundings which must have been dear to him? Can you not give him the consolation and peace of dying in the home surroundings? That was the question that was raised and the Premier advanced the plea of the prisoner being illiterate. Sir, the answer seems to be almost inhuman. Perhaps, he was appearing to make out a debating point. 'How can illiterate men go and join the anti-Hindi movement?' Is that the point? And just because the prisoner is opposed to the movement and opposed to you, is that the way the question should be raised? There is the father of the boy who straightaway issued a contradiction, who said with righteous indignation that the boy was not illiterate, that he could read and write, that he was reading novels and writing letters.

"There is the second instance of Thalappa Nadar, who died as a prisoner in your custody. He was suffering from an acute form of dysentery. Could you not have sent information in sufficient time to his parents and to his wife to be by his bedside? You postponed it to the bitterest end, when the parent and the wife came to see only the dead body. Was it not up to you to keep the parents informed of it sufficiently early? Is the Government of Madras lost even to that sense of sympathy? A man is suffering from a tumour in the brain and is faced with sure death; you go and ask him whether he would foreswear the anti-Hindi movement as a condition to his being released. That is the rumour that is current."

"THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Does the hon. Member believe that rumour?"

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" I would not believe that instruction was prompted by you but I am perfectly prepared to believe that some of your followers would have done it."

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" By ' powers ' does the hon. Member mean Government officers did it? Does he believe it? "

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" I said ' followers ' and not ' powers '."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" You say they went to the hospital? "

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" Might have been. Judging from the sort of interpellation that has been put here, about children being hired, etc., anything can be believed of your followers. Madam Deputy Speaker, that is the way your political opponents are being dealt with and I say that in no democratic country such methods of dealing with political opponents will be tolerated. In that great country England where democracy reigns supreme, any Prime Minister coming with even the majority that you have got here will not retain office for a minute if he indulges in acts of this sort. Here unaccustomed to democracy as we are, you are having your own way.

" Let me now turn as to how you deal with your own men who offend the law. I will content myself with one instance, the withdrawal of a case for prosecution for rioting and disorderly conduct against a batch of your Congressmen in the Subdivisional Magistrate's court of Koilpatti. That question was raised a few days back by way of interpellation and I hope that the answer which the Premier gave was satisfying to him. It was a most unsatisfactory answer even from the able Premier. What was the answer that was given by him? ' People who are opposed to the Government have been going about the country making provocative and scurrilous speeches.' Provocative speeches! Yes. No opposition has got any business to exist if they cannot provoke the men in power to some sort of activity. But to say scurrilous! He also began to talk of the restraint, the extraordinary patience with which the millions in this country, the general public, were tolerating a few handful of vehemently-inclined individuals making these scurrilous and provocative speeches. Well, if the Hon. the Premier really believes in his statement, I do not grudge him the satisfaction that he derives. Only let us both go together any evening to meetings anywhere in the Tamil districts, let him look at the thousands and thousands that gather there evening after evening to show their condemnation of the Government and the present Madras Ministry, the acclamation which the speaker's reference to the Madras Government provokes. If all these things give you the satisfaction, by all means have that satisfaction. Whatever the case in the other meetings, does the Hon. the Premier reasonably think that the speeches at Ettayapuram were

provocative or scurrilous? Does he know who the speakers were? My friend and his friend Mr. Somasundara Bharati, was one of them. His enlightened daughter and distinguished son-in-law are both Members of this House. They might both disagree in their politics from him; but would they, or for the matter of that, any member of the House be bold enough to question the respectability of Somasundara Bharati, who, until last year, was your own collaborator and fellow worker? His respectability, his capacity to keep up a certain high standard of debate, his inability to descent to anything scurrilous or provocative, surely will not be questioned. The other speaker was Mr. K. A. P. Viswanathan of Trichinopoly. He may not be so well known as Somasundara Bharati, to the members of this House. Standing here with a full sense of responsibility, I might openly declare that he is a respectable gentleman, respectable in conduct, in character, in
.m. behaviour and the level of public speaking. He can keep up a high standard of debate, as high as any other public man that I know of. Persons like him were the speakers. A few hooligans spread over various parts of the gathering that had collected to hear them threw stones, created disturbance. The Police interfered and tried to stop the disturbance. The Police could have resorted to force and could have even resorted to shooting."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has been speaking for more than half an hour. May I know how much more time he will take?"

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I will take not more than ten minutes more, Madam.

"The Police arrested them. This is not the occasion for me to say anything about the Police. I shall reserve it for the Police Demand. On this occasion I do not wish to say anything beyond this, that they have been always behaving with moderation and restraint throughout. I am prepared now, sitting in the Opposition, to give that same certificate to the Police which I gave sitting as a Member in charge of Police. They arrested the miscreants. They put up a case before a magistrate."

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member still going on?"

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of an extension of ten minutes granted me by the Deputy Speaker of which one minute is over. I will finish within that time."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—"I think it is a great indulgence shown to the hon. Member. It is now 31 minutes since he began his speech."

*Rao Bahadur Sir A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"The Deputy Speaker duly warned me that I had taken thirty minutes. I asked for ten more minutes. (Laughter.) I will soon finish, Sir.

"So, the prosecution was launched; the case came up; the accused were present in court and the Magistrate came to take up the case. Then a chit was handed over to the Prosecuting Inspector saying 'Take an adjournment.' The Prosecuting Inspector gets it and asks for an adjournment. The Magistrate asks the Prosecuting Inspector why he wants an adojurnment and he says: 'I am here ready to conduct the case, but my instructions from my superiors are to take an adjournment.' The Magistrate turns to the accused and asks whether they know why an adjournment is asked for. Then one of the accused says: 'Well, we have written to some of our Ministers. Perhaps this is the effect of it.'"

*The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"This took place. . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"What is the basis for this statement? Are we to go by the statements of third parties and open up the cases tried in courts?"

*Rao Bahadur Sir A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I had it from respectable gentlemen."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I do not think these are matters that should be discussed on the floor of a Legislative Assembly. They are perfectly out of order. Such conversations and gossip which have no substance should not be made the basis for allegations of a serious character against courts and against the persons presiding in the courts."

*Rao Bahadur Sir A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I am afraid I have not made myself understood. I did not say a word or cast any aspersion against the magistrate. I was just narrating an incident which took place in court about the adjournment of this case which, under the orders of the Government, was withdrawn. The circumstances under which the Government ordered the withdrawal of a pending case is what I am referring to."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Supposing the Government orders the withdrawal of a case. . ."

*The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"May I be permitted to say a word, Sir? Once before, in the course of his

speech, the hon. Member referred to a rumour, and I got up to ask whether the hon. Member believed the rumour; he said that he did not, and converted it into a different kind of allegation. I did not wish to pursue the matter in that way. Now, again he says that some accused person in a case said something to the effect that he wrote something to a Minister. I wish to ask again whether the hon. Member believes that story or he simply uses it without believing it."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" I have no reason to disbelieve the statement made to me."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Hon. Members will observe the dignity of the House by not referring to rumours. Such references will not be permitted. I disallow that statement. The hon. Member will go on."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—' I bow to your ruling, Sir. It was not a rumour."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member may go on with the rest of his speech."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" Anyway, a case had been launched and it was withdrawn. It was a case of serious rioting and disturbance."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Built on this story?"

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" No. It was a case based on what happened in that place. Such a case was withdrawn under the orders of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What is the authority for saying that? "

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" The Prime Minister's reply in this House. Three days ago the Prime Minister gave a reply to a question about the withdrawal of a case. I am questioning the propriety of the action of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Cannot they withdraw a case once launched? "

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" They have the right. Legally it is all right. I say it was improper; because they were your men who were implicated in a case, you did not allow justice to take its course. You interfered with your executive authority, shut out the magistrate and got your men free. Because they are your men, whatever offence they might commit, you let them free. Is that the way you are going to carry on the Government, I ask. That is the allegation I am making. They were Congressmen who created disturbance at a public meeting. The Police interfered, arrested them and put them up before a

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magistrate and filed a charge-sheet. The accused were arraigned before the magistrate and then the Executive Government interfered and said 'Do not proceed with the prosecution.' "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Why should it not be done when the Government are satisfied that the prosecution is wrong? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let the hon. Member go on."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" And what is the explanation given by the Hon. the Premier? 'We sent for the records. We perused them. We were not satisfied that there will be reliable evidence about the identification of the accused and therefore we withdrew the prosecution.' Sir, if on this ground you can withdraw a prosecution, why have any magistracy at all? Why have judicial administration? Why not you send for the records in every case and say: 'I am not satisfied and therefore no court shall take cognizance of it?' I say, you did it only because the persons who were injured were anti-Hindi people and those that created the disturbance were pro-Hindi people. And therefore under the Madras Ministry there is one sort of law for people who differ from you and your views and there is another sort of law for people who are your supporters. That is the sort of Government under which we are living now. And I will. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" This is evidently a case different from what the hon. Member was alluding to previously? "

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" No, the same case. I was referring to the circumstances under which the withdrawal took place and that was based on information given to me by a gentleman who was present there. But when you ruled out reference to it, I left out what took place in the court. I am now confining myself to the questions put to the Hon. the Premier and the answers obtained. Therefore, if it is an anti-Hindi man who merely says, 'Long live Tamil,' give him six months' imprisonment, and if it is a pro-Hindi man who throws stones, defies the Police and snaps his fingers at law and order, give him freedom. Well, that is the sort of democracy that we are now having. I shall not dwell further on this question, but shall refer to one other question and conclude.

" Now I am going to make a reference to certain appointments made, and in doing so, let me make myself perfectly clear that I have not got any the least thing to say against any one of the persons appointed individually. They are all gentlemen worthy of the posts they are occupying. I may be rightly understood there. I am only questioning the policy of the Government in filling these key positions with men belonging to one community—the community to which the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. Gentleman sitting next to him belong, the Brahman community. The Inspector of Local Boards. . ."

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* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" On a point of order, Sir. There is a limit to the privilege given to the Members of the Opposition as Members of the House. No Government could function for one minute if the Opposition Members should have the privilege to indulge in insinuations of the kind indulged in until now. From the beginning of this debate motives have been attributed and charges of partiality have been made. Can any Government in any part of the world get on with the administration in such an atmosphere? There must be a limit to these things. The hon. Gentleman has now come up with the Brahmans. I would certainly exchange my Brahmanism with the hon. Gentleman straightaway in your presence, Sir. Let him take it over and he will then understand what Brahmanism is. He has forgotten himself. Brahmanism? He has played with Brahmanism for twenty years. The Brahman, non-Brahman quarrel has been buried thousands of fathoms deep by the electorate. Still he gets up in time and out of time and goes on talking of Brahmanism and non-Brahmanism and communalism. Is there no end to it, Sir?" (Applause.)

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" I have been charging the Government, Mr. Speaker, with partiality, it is true; with communalism, it is true; with inteference with truth and with ungentlemanly treatment of the Opposition. Every one of my statements is substantiated by facts."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" On a point of order; on the confession made by the hon. Member, I would request you, Sir, as the Speaker of this House, to give your ruling whether any hon. Member is entitled to charge the Government with partiality, with communalism and with all the things that he has submitted now. I would like to have your ruling on this point."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :— " Mr. Speaker, I was somewhat amused at the point of order which was converted into a harangue against the Opposition as a whole. I do not think any Member can function according to the dictum laid down by the Hon. the Revenue Minister. I submit that it is the primary function of any Member of the House, leave alone the Opposition Members, to make any allegation or any charge against the Government. . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" But within the limits of parliamentary form."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :— " I bow to your suggestion, Sir. I meant only allegations in parliamentary form. If a Member believes that the Government have been partial in a particular matter and that the Government's action in regard to a matter affected a particular community, it

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is certainly open to him to say that the action of the Government in that matter has been pro-communal if it has been in favour of a particular community and anti-communal if it has been against a particular community. If hon. Members of this House are denied the opportunity of making such statements in the House on behalf of the community affected when they feel strongly. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What does the Leader of the Opposition say to the manner in which the reference was made to the community to which the Prime Minister belongs? It was very offensive. The manner in which the hon. Member hurled that reference at the Prime Minister was very offensive."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I submit, Sir, you are now suggesting the point of order. That was not the point raised by the Hon. the Minister for Revenue."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Whatever it is, the manner in which it was put on the floor of the House was very offensive."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I fail to understand that that was the point of order raised by the Hon. the Minister for Revenue. You have rightly pointed out what the point of order you are considering is. If you think that any Member is suggesting anything in an improper manner, you are here to call upon that Member not to make such remarks. It is a perfectly understandable proposition. We will obey your instructions. But the Hon. the Revenue Minister did not raise that point. That is my humble submission. I shall conclude by mentioning that in this House, as in any other parliamentary institution, it is only proper for Members to tell the Government that their particular actions were not proper. If the Members of the House cannot do that, we have no existence here."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The same matter. . ."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" May I say a word, Sir? The Leader of the Opposition said that there was no point of order for a ruling in what I said. I may submit to you, Sir, that this sort of communalism was brought forward in the Legislative Assembly of the Punjab on one occasion and the Speaker of the Assembly ruled it out. There is that precedent."

MR. SPEAKER:—" But are not this Government following the communal rotation and the communal Government Order?" (Laughter.)

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" The communal rotation 6-15 p.m.
and the communal Government Order, so long as they are existing, can be referred to only in the way in which they ought to be referred to. But to charge the Government with partiality, I submit. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Supposing the communal Government Order by which the present Government is swearing is not given effect to?"

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If it is that, I can understand it. No doubt we are dealing with appointments according to communal Government Orders. But the point which my hon. Friend, Sir Pannir Selvam has raised is not that. The point that he has raised is with regard to the continuance of the present Government. So it is a matter on which I would like to have your ruling."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"We have discussed this matter at some length. I do not object to such attacks. I feel I can afford to wait and listen to them. At the same time, my Hon. Colleague was perfectly right in rising at this particular stage of the discussion, which the Leader of the Opposition should have appreciated, when it came to directly charging a Member of the Government with, not partiality in an affair of the Government, but with partiality in regard to a particular community. It was certainly right for my Colleague to rise to a point of order when the matter was referred to in such an unparliamentary way. That my Colleague was too much agitated by the offence shows the gravity of the offence and the point was not raised in the legal manner in which it ought to have been raised. The fact that my Hon. Colleague was agitated over this attack proves the gravity of the offence with which the hon. Member, Sir Pannir Selvam is charged."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Any matter may be put in parliamentary language, but the undignified manner in which this attack was levelled against the Government must be interfered with. I should like to suggest to hon. Members that they should present their case in temperate language and in a parliamentary manner. The manner in which Sir Pannir Selvam presented his case was perfectly unparliamentary, and as such the latter portion of the language employed by him will have to be withdrawn. He can go on with his speech after withdrawing it."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"In fact, I got up to say this. As you hold that my speaking about the particular community to which the Hon. the Premier belongs, is not proper, I bow to your ruling and I certainly withdraw it unconditionally.

"I only state that all the key positions are being gradually monopolized by one community, and that is the Brahman community. The Inspector of Local Bodies, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the Commissioner of Labour and all other important key positions are being filled in by members of the

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Brahman community. They are worthy gentlemen as I have said already. I have personally nothing against them and they will discharge their duties satisfactorily. But constituted as we are in this land and divided into water-tight compartments, each one living within an area of his own, communities exist, communal feelings exist, and no one can shut his eyes to this state of affairs and say to talk of communalism is a sin. Until you try and find out a remedy, the evil will exist. The only way of eradicating the evil is to remove the cause of the evil and the Government are aggravating the situation by giving important position. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The cause is the existence of communities themselves. That has to be removed. (Laughter.) Is that your point? "

*RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" Perfectly true. This land will be better, happier, and fit for a democratic system of Government only on that day when there are no distinctions of castes and communities."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is when all are thoroughly nationalized."

*RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" That is what I stand for as a true Christian. But as long as the communities are there, it is no use getting into a flurry and denying it and saying that it is a sin to talk of communalism. But the Members of the Government get themselves into a flurry and say that communalism ought not to be talked of. I would only appeal to the Hon. Members who constitute the Government—I would not say Ministers—to see that they do not give cause, justifiable cause, for agitation over this question. The Hon. the Premier suggested the other day a remedy for the anti-Hindu agitation, namely, the throwing open of Hindu temples for all 'Harijans.' Let him try that method or any other method to get rid of that evil. Let there be a fairer and more equitable distribution of appointment. Let there be a more just treatment of the officials who do not belong to the Brahman community. If all these are done, then there will be peace and harmony.

" As I said, Mr. Speaker, I shall recount the charges that are brought against this Government. The first is you take all orders not from the people of this Province but from an outside authority. But you treat your political opponents with scant courtesy and consideration. You treat them in a partisan spirit. But when it comes to a question of treating your own men, you encourage them in their disorderly conduct and behaviour. As long as they are disturbing anti-Hindi meetings, you are not taking any action against them. This is perhaps due to the non-violent spirit in

which all your actions are supposed to be done and therefore the sting that should be otherwise attached to all your unjust actions is removed! What is the consequence that is produced in the mind of the Police and in the mind of the public of such acts of yours? 'What is the good of our taking any action if the Government are going to issue an order to withdraw the case?' All these disturbances were created disturbances. They are all organized. It looks as though you incite these disturbers to throw not one stone, but half a dozen stones. That is the sort of inducement you are giving to your own party men to break the law. I submit that is not the way of running a Government. With regard to distribution of patronage to communities other than the one community which is having a large share of this patronage, having regard to efficiency at the same time, I submit I have had experience in my own way of giving effect to communal representation. Communal representation can be given effect to fully without impairing in any the least degree efficiency. I have had personal experience of this matter in administering the District Board of Tanjore. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the less a person talks about things done in his personal capacity, the better."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I am not talking about things done in my personal capacity, but I am talking about my personal experience."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not desirable. There will be personal attacks again. (Laughter.) Such opportunities should not be given."

* RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"You may rest assured, Mr. Speaker, if any personal attack is made against me, I will not jump up and I will not get myself agitated."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But I will not allow it. I will prevent it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I believe that when we are on this Demand, it is not always necessary that we should endeavour to make this an occasion for impeaching the Government or to curtail our rights . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Do you want me to give a ruling about it? Are you raising a point of order?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I never said a word about it . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But you were making remarks as to the procedure to be adopted. You go on with the substance of the speech. The procedure may be left to me."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have not said anything about it."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I think the hon. Member talked about the curtailment of the rights of the Members. He may go on with the substance of the speech."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I really do not know what the substance is. . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The rights of the House are enlarged and are never curtailed at present and they will always be enlarged. They are enlarged day after day."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" My object in making a reference to this was that we should not use this opportunity for impeaching the Government. But all the same we are trying our best to express ourselves fully and to the best of our ability and in the most parliamentary way possible regarding what we think to be the acts of commission and omission of the Government. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is not a motion for a vote of censure that Sir Pannir Selvam was moving. . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" If the motion is carried, it may be treated as a vote of censure. There is nothing wrong about it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" If I am seconding this motion, it should not be understood that I am treating it as a vote of censure motion. But then we are in our own humble way trying to say what exactly we feel about this matter and I am sure reference to communities and reference to communalism will not be objected to by any Member of this House sitting on this side or that side or by the Hon. Speaker, because as Sir Pannir Selvam said, constituted as we are in this country as communities, some of us have to express ourselves in terms of communities."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" So long as hon. Members speak in a parliamentary style and do not use unparliamentary expressions the Chair allows perfect freedom to Members of the House to criticize the administration to the fullest extent."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Speaker, some of us who have participated in the public life of this Province have felt that Government in the past was a bureaucratic Government and an autocratic system of Government and it must be supplanted by a system of Government which would be democratic. And it is with that object, I think, the country made great sacrifices and it is with that object that many people suffered incarceration. To-day we are told that as a result of the introduction of Provincial Autonomy we have responsible Government in the place of an irresponsible Government which used

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to be the system of Government that was prevailing in this Province in the past. But we are disillusioned. The moment we had what is called constitutionally a 'Responsible Government' replacing an unconstitutional Government, we expected that we would have not only good Government of the Province, but we would also have a democratic system of Government in this Province. I am not going to take up much of the time of the House in saying whether the present Government are not really sincerely trying to do some good to the people of this Province. I do not want to question their honesty and I believe,
30 in their own way, they are trying their best to serve the people of
p.m this Province. At the same time I cannot agree with any hon. Member if he holds that this Government is really carried on on democratic lines. If any Government is conducted on democratic lines, the Government of the day must show tolerance towards the Opposition. I do not mean merely the Opposition in this House; of course there was an exhibition of intolerance with regard to the hon. Member who spoke his mind freely. He was not treated with that toleration which is expected. Not only in this House, but also outside this House the Government should treat their opponents with a certain amount of toleration. There is no use in ignoring public opinion and considering it as unimportant and treating it with contempt. After all a Government can be carried on on democratic lines only if it bases itself on the will of the people. If the will of the people is ignored, it is nothing short of indifference to public opinion. Sir, public opinion is a thing which grows and changes. It might have been one at one time and it may become another at another time and it is the duty of a democratic, responsible Government to pay heed to the public opinion of the day. Public opinion is not static. It changes from day to day. Sir, from the utterances of my Hon. Friend the Premier and some Members on the Treasury Bench I am afraid I have to conclude that they are impervious to public opinion. I am not speaking my own view of the matter alone, but to-day even a nationalist paper went to the extent of saying that this Government has very often been impervious to public opinion. We are now having in this Province a Government which is less democratic than it ought to be and less considerate to public opinion. I do not want to deal with the various instances where public opinion has been disregarded. For instance, in regard to the Sales Tax Bill, we have seen that not only in this City but throughout the Presidency public opinion is opposed to the tax. But still the Hon. the Premier who is responsible for this legislation said that he was not going to take into account any opposition to this measure and that he was even prepared to vacate office instead of dropping the measure. Utterances like this make one conclude that he is not prepared to pay due regard to public opinion. Mr. Speaker, I do not think I need dilate upon the point further.

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" I will next go to the question of local administration. My Hon. Friend the Minister for Local Administration is trying his best to see that the administration of the local bodies is carried on as smoothly as possible, but at the same time, ever since he took up office he has been trying to curtail the powers of the local bodies. At this stage, when we are trying to evolve a democratic system of Government it is not proper that this Government should try to curtail the powers of the local bodies. The Hon. Minister should mete out equal justice to all parties in the local bodies, but I have come across some instances—I do not speak from hearsay or rumour, I have myself come across those instances—where the Hon. Minister has interfered in favour of Congress candidates and Congress members and against members belonging to other parties. Sir, the less the interference on the part of the Hon. Minister the better.

" Mr. Speaker, my hon. Friend Sir Pannir Selvam has already spoken about the scant justice that is done to the members of certain communities in the local bodies, in the Secretariat and other places. I am going to speak only about the Muslims. There is not a single Muslim Secretary in the Secretariat. We have been expecting that when a vacancy arose a Muslim would be appointed. But what happened? A gentleman who had once acted as Secretary has been brought up again. I have nothing to say personally against that gentleman and I have great respect for him. But I submit that a chance could have been given to a member of some other commmunity, a Muslim or a Christian. But that would not be done; they would only bring a gentleman who had once acted as Secretary for some years. We have been asking that a Muslim should be appointed as a Secretary in the Secretariat; we were waiting for a vacancy to occur; but when a vacancy arose, we were disappointed, for the Hon. Minister has thought it better to bring the same gentleman who had acted once before. I have nothing against him and I am sure he will make a very good officer and very good Secretary, but I want to say at the same time that there are others who will make equally good officers and equally good Secretaries. My hon. Friend, Sir Pannir Selvam said that all the key positions were taken up by members of one community. I have nothing to say against any particular community, but what I say is, as the Government are the custodians of the rights of all communities, they should do justice to all communities and not confine their attention to one or two communities only. This country has many communities and things must be done in such a way that justice is done to all communities.

" Sir, I will now refer to the conditions in Burma. I must thank the Hon. the Premier for the keen interest he took . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Does the hon. Member want to speak of the conditions in Burma on this Demand? I think it is better he does not dilate upon it at any great length."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:— " There is no other Demand except this on which we can raise the question about the conditions in Burma."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I want to speak about the part played by the Madras Government in connexion with the disturbances in Burma."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The connexion is rather remote. If it is not possible to speak about this subject on any other Demand, the hon. Member may say just a few words on it."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Can we speak on the subject on the Miscellaneous Demand? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes. I think the hon. Member must be thanked for his suggestion."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I will not say much about the subject except this: that I want to thank the Hon. the Premier for what he has done for the refugees who came here, for the kind treatment that was given to them and for the arrangements that were made to send them to their homes. But I do not think it is enough for him to stop with that, because most of the people who have returned from Burma are unemployed and this aspect of the problem adds to the troubles of the Province. I think it is better that he takes more effective steps to see that the conditions of Indians in Burma are improved, and that the Agent who is sent from this Province is one who will do proper justice to the cause of Indians. I will leave the matter there.

" Sir, in our Province as elsewhere in this country unemployment is becoming a very acute question. Ever since this Government came into office I have been watching for an announcement from them of some method or proposal which will solve this acute problem to some extent at least. But still the Government have not taken up this question. Of course the Hon. the Premier will say in his reply that all that the Government are doing are tending towards a solution of the problem. But some of us are not in a position to understand that point of view. It is not enough if the Government devote all their time to the preparation of statistics, but something practical must be done and I hope it will be done soon.

" Sir, I will conclude my observations by referring to the manner in which the communal Government Order is worked. It is true that even against the wishes of some of my hon. Friends on the Treasury Bench the Government have agreed to continue the

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working of the communal Government Order and that they are endeavouring to work it satisfactorily from their own point of view. But what happens is this. In the actual working of the communal Government Order, however, the minority communities suffer a lot of hardship. Take for instance the Muslim community: although that community has allotted to it two places out of twelve in almost all the higher appointments, during the last three or four years and particularly during the last two years, it has been found that Muslims were not available for those posts. The Hon. the Premier will say that the Government cannot help the community if it is backward in education. He may even go to the extent of saying that the representatives of the community themselves have stated that the community is backward and that it wants educational facilities and ask that when such is the position, how they could expect the Government to give more and more appointments when qualified people are not available. Sir, only recently this very Government have issued a communiqué giving all possible facilities to the members of the Scheduled Classes. The Government have done well. That community deserves all the encouragement given to them. The more the encouragement given to them the better. But at the same time the Hon. the Premier knows that the Muslim community, as has been admitted by the representatives of the community themselves, is backward. Therefore is it not necessary that, without affecting the efficiency of the administration, the Government should give special facilities to the members of this community so that they may get that proportion of the representation in the services which is provided for them in the communal Government Order? In recent times applications have been called for for filling up various vacancies. There are two things which ought to be taken note of in this connexion. For posts for which minimum qualification, say, the School Final or even B.A. degree is enough, the qalification is unnecessarily put up; and then applications are called for and members of all communities including Mussalmans and other backward communities are expected to satisfy those qualifications." 6-45 p.m.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, on a very patent matter, the hon. Member is committing a mistake, and it is likely to mislead a large number of people. It is not open to the Public Services Commission or any authority to *put up*—that is the phrase used—the minimum qualifications necessary. It is open to them only to advertise for the qualifications fixed by the rules long, long ago, before we took office. No qualification has been raised and no power has been given to any authority to put up arbitrarily any particular qualification which had been previously prescribed. The hon. Member is either misinformed or he is talking too vaguely."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If I made a mistake in saying that the Public Services Commission was responsible for it, I correct myself. I do not think the Public Services Commission is responsible for any such change in the qualifications, for it cannot . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Nor the Government. Nobody has done it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Well, Sir, I stand corrected by the Hon. the Premier. Yet I believe that when on an examination of the statistics in regard to appointments made to some of these posts, the Government find that members belonging to backward communities are not available particularly from the Muslim community to fill the posts, it will behove the Government, as they have done in the case of the depressed classes, to see to it that the minimum qualification consistent with efficiency is prescribed and not a higher standard. I think it is the duty of the Government, if they really want to work the communal Government Order saitsfactorily and fairly, to see that the qualification is reduced; it must be the minimum qualification and not that intended for the advanced communities. Then the question of age also comes in. It is a well-known fact that in the case of the Mussalman community, there is a difference of two or three years in age. The Mussalmans take to English education very late, because they have their earlier years spent in religious and other education, and that consideration has been taken into account in the case of some of the departments, especially in regard to admission to the Engineering College. There, a difference of two years is made so far as Mussalman candidates are concerned; but the same consideration is not shown to them in other departments. I think it will not do to keep the age for Mussalmans at 21, 22, 23 or 24; I think for ministerial services, the age has been raised to 27, but as I said, this is not satisfactory because there are other departments where, too, such a raising of the age limit may be necessary. If the communal Government Order should function properly, I think, Sir, this question should be considered.

" Sir, I will finish by referring to the question of commutation of pensions. I am afraid that the Government have not acted justly by their officers in taking away their right to commute their pensions when they retire. There are many cases of Government officials who await their retirement in order to settle many a personal affair or family affair. To deprive them, ostensibly in their own interests, of their legitimate right of getting their pension commuted in order to meet various charges which may have accumulated ever since they came into office, just at the time of their retirement, is certainly not fair or correct. I know in the last Budget provision was made for commutation of pensions.

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When that was the case, I don't think the Government acted rightly by coming forward in the middle of the year or at the close of the year and taking away that right abruptly and all of a sudden. I could have understood if no provision had been made at all in the current year for that purpose; that would have been more politic and more just and more reasonable; but to come up at the very close of the year and say that pensions cannot be commuted is certainly not giving these officers any breathing time to realise the deprivation of their rights. I understand, Sir, that there are about twenty very hard cases of Government officials who were actually asked by the Secretariat to have themselves medically examined; after they were so examined and after the medical certificates were sent to the Secretariat, when the Secretariat was about to send them the order for commutation, it seems this Government Order was passed, that they would not be allowed to commute their pension. Sir, even if the Government are not in a mood to consider the cases of those who did not have their medical examination completed, whose cases were not therefore mature enough to be considered for this commutation, I may appeal to them now on behalf of these twenty hard cases, in respect of which, as I said, the concerned officers were asked to be medically examined and to produce the certificates, and the certificates also had been sent up to the Secretariat, after paying the necessary charges for such examination. I hope the Hon. the Premier will take these hard cases into account and see that justice is done to them."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, before I proceed to other points, let me refer in a cursory manner to a topic that has already been referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. Sir, it is not my idea to waste any time in justifying the claims of Muslim minority to services; because it was only the other day that I had an assurance from the Hon. the Premier that he and the Members of the Government are doing their best in the matter and wherever it is possible for them, they are trying to put in minority community members. Sir, in view of that assurance given by the Hon. the Premier, it will not be appropriate on my part to press that matter once again, especially when it has already been ably brought out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan.

" Sir, when I rise to speak on this subject, I realize my responsibility to be fair and reasonable in my criticism regarding the working of the present Government and of the Members occupying the Government Benches. But it is the duty of every right-thinking member, every honest member, to call a spade a spade. It is not proper to suppress facts; it is not proper to hide truth and say only those things which will look nice and pleasant to the Hon. Ministers. Sir, if I venture to offer any remarks which may be

unpalatable, I may assure the Hon. Ministers that I do so with the best of intentions and without meaning anything against them personally.

" Sir, it was just two years ago that this Government came into office. Before they did so, it was feared in some quarters that after all Provincial Autonomy which they were going to work, with all its ramifications under the Government of India Act, might not prove workable. They feared also that it might prove a bed of thorns for the Congress Ministry; but events have shown to us that it has not proved a bed of thorns. The bed of thorns has changed into a bed of roses, and I find, so far as I can see, that the Ministers are feeling very comfortable over it."

MR. SPEAKER :—" In the bed of roses!"

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Yes, Sir; but when the Ministers accepted office, the country was given to understand that they would work the constitution in order to wreck it. I am glad that the Ministry has now shown that they were not at all serious about wrecking the constitution. They have been in office for the last two years and I hope they will carry on till they complete their term of office.

" Sir, it is but proper on my part that I should congratulate the Ministers on some of the schemes which they have launched. It is not for me to repeat that the country owes a debt of gratitude to the Ministry for the legislation on Prohibition, for the relief of indebtedness of the agriculturists, for Harijan uplift, etc. It may be that to some members here and some people outside, the financial implications of these schemes may be alarming, but in spite of depleted finances, I am sure the Ministers will accomplish these schemes before long. No doubt finance is an important consideration: Prohibition has taken away a good slice of revenue; there is not much money coming in. The problem is how to get it. As in the case of an ordinary individual, the Government could adopt only the ordinary methods of ' beg, borrow or steal.' But I am afraid that even from this point of view, the Government have exhausted their resources. The Government have borrowed, as we all know. The Government have begged for money; by asking for taxes on sale of petrol, on sale of electricity, and they want now a tax on turnover. Sir, we already know the position that the Government are faced with. It is not for me to speak at length on that proposition now; we will have the measure before us very soon, and that will be the proper time for me to offer my remarks. Sir, I may say that even the third resource, namely, stealing, has been resorted to. The Minor Ports Fund came in handy, and it was very cleverly taken away by an Act which was passed. Sir, having exhausted all the three resources

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of begging, borrowing and stealing, I do not know what more is left open to the Government to resort to, in order to complete their schemes.

"Let me go to my other point. So far as the present Government were following a provincial programme, they were within their limits. They were doing all they could for the good of the people, but once they stepped out of the provincial sphere, their loyalties became divided and they began to cut each other. They wanted to teach our boys and girls a language which they think would be the *lingua franca* of India. They adopted Hindustani and introduced it in our Province. What is the attitude in respect of those who opposed the compulsory introduction of Hindustani? Sir, I am sorry to say that they minimise the importance and the significance of the anti-Hindustani agitation, by saying that it is a movement, a disturbance created by a few illiterate and uneducated people. Sir, these anti-Hindi 7 p.m. agitators offer picketing and they are at once sent to jail. I am not going into the merits of their case; I am not prepared to say that they are right; I am not prepared to say that they are wrong; and it is not my idea to discuss the policy of the introduction of Hindi in our Province. Pehaps the Hon. the Premier has introduced this language with the best of intentions and I will be doing a great injustice to him if I disbelieve those intentions. But, Sir, my complaint is that the methods they are adopting and the manner in which they are treating these people, cannot meet with our approval. Sir, my argument is this. If you think that the people who are carrying on this anti-Hindi agitation are right, then is this the way of appreciating public opinion? Or if you think that they are doing wrong, if you think that these agitators are misled or misinformed and that their agitation is mercenary in character, may I respectfully ask, is this the manner of reforming them? Do you think that you can reform them by sending them to jail—I mean the people who are illiterate, misinformed and mercenary in character? Sir, they are only few in number as opposed to a big party in the Province, namely, the Congress. Is it after all difficult for you to convince them or to bring them round by persuasion? But, unfortunately, the procedure that you adopt is very pathetic indeed. You are adopting the same old instrument of oppression you were once vehemently opposing namely the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

"Sir, I then pass on to another point; and that deals with a matter which is not entirely provincial in nature. The Government are mixing up provincial politics with all-India politics. They have taken up things which are of all-India concern but most unsuitable to our Province at present. Sir, I refer to hoisting of the Congress flags, singing of Congress songs and the installing of the photos of Congress leaders in public buildings.

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If you will kindly permit me Sir, I would just refer to one incident which happened recently. I gave notice of two short notice questions drawing the attention of the Government to certain incidents that have taken place in the Ramnad and Salem districts. What happened at Ilayangudi in Ramnad district was this: a Congress flag was hoisted over a school, and by way of protest the Muslim students were withdrawn by their parents from the school in question. Turning to Salem, what happened was, photos of Congress leaders were installed in schools; and by way of protest, the Muslim parents withdrew their children from those institutions. Sir, it is unfortunate that both the questions were returned to me saying that they were disallowed, because the Government are not primarily concerned with those things. Let me point out, Sir, at this stage, that the Government are responsible for those things. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" So, you are merely questioning the order of the Chair in disallowing those questions?"

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I respectfully submit to the Hon. Speaker that I am not questioning the propriety or the impropriety of disallowing those questions; but I am just going to point out that it is the local administration that is responsible for creating this mischief."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You may refer to local administration."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am passing on to local administration, Sir. The Local Administration Department has passed orders to the effect that the photo of Gandhiji can be installed in public schools. Sir, let me be clear on this point. Personally, I have nothing to say against Gandhiji; not only India but the whole world has accepted his leadership; and I have nothing to say against his leadership. But the question is, when the country is not prepared for these things, when the people are not prepared for your Congress flags, for your Congress songs or for the photos of your Congress leaders, do you think it is the opportune time for introducing these things? Do you think you are not abusing the power placed in your hands? If Muslim students are withdrawn from the Muslim institutions as a result of this action, don't you think you are carrying a great harm to Muslim education? Of course, Sir, the Government may turn round and say that they are not responsible for these things; that it is the district boards and municipal councils that are primarily responsible. But I say, Sir, that the Government set the ball rolling by authorizing the district boards to hoist these flags, to install photos of Congress leaders and to allow Congress songs to be sung in their institutions. Having done that, they must be prepared to take the consequences that may follow from these orders. Sir, I take this opportunity of warning the Members of the Government that if they do not adopt a wise policy in this respect, later

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on they will have to feel sorry for what they have done. To-day it may be a small matter, and that is why I am asking the Government to set right matters even at this early date; but if matters are allowed to go on in this manner, the day will come when the Government will have to repent for their action. Let them not think that by these things they are going to attain the national goal. They will have to wait for the proper time to come. Unfortunately, at present, these things are likely to take them, not to a national India, but to a communal India. Sir, it is in this spirit that I am offering these remarks.

" Sir, I then pass on to another observation. If I understand the basic principle of Parliamentary Government correctly, the present Ministers owe their undivided allegiance to the people of the Province through us their representatives; and they rise or fall with us. No other person on the face of the earth can dislodge them from the seats of power which they now occupy, but very often, they betray the trust and confidence placed in them by the people. It is unfair that they should threaten the people of the Province with resignation over events which have no direct or immediate consequence for them. Recently Sir, one of the Hon. Ministers of our Government issued a statement in the Press saying that if the Ministers of the United Provinces and the Central Provinces were to resign over the issue of Gandhiji's fast in Rajkot, then the Ministers of the Madras Government also would have to follow suit. May I respectfully submit, Sir, that this was not an event with which we were directly concerned? May I respectfully submit that after all neither the Prince nor, the people of Rajkot nor even the gentleman who observed the fast have anything to do with our Government or with the party in power? None of them is a member of the Congress and therefore there cannot be any reason for our Government to associate themselves with the activities of the people of Rajkot or the great satyagrahi who on divine inspiration is said to have observed the fast. I say the present Ministers have done an injustice to the great satyagrahi by doing things which he himself did not want and I am sure that he could have achieved the object which he wanted to achieve even without the step that they wanted to take. The thing that was designed to be obtained by peaceful satyagraha has been spoiled on account of the coercion that you have introduced, through the threat of resignation. That is not a thing which should come from a Minister of the Madras Government and the Members of Government should have avoided making such statements. It is unfortunate . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Have the Government made such a statement? I was at a loss to understand exactly what the hon. Member was referring to. I do not think the Government of this Province have made any statement in the manner described."

*K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not the Government of Madras that made this statement in *any official paper or in an official manner, but it is the* Hon. the Revenue Minister that made the statement to the Press to the effect that if the Bihar and United Provinces Governments resigned over this issue, the Madras Government also would follow suit. It was reported in the *Hindu* and in the *Madras Mail.*"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Did you follow it?"

*K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I *am not giving out rumours. I base my argument on facts* and figures. I refer to the statement that appeared in the Press and was given by the Hon. the Revenue Minister. Sir, is it necessary, I ask, when you are running an administration in the name of the people and for the people of this Province, that you should associate yourselves with the activities and things that are taking place outside our Province? It is not the people of Rajkot that placed you in power; it is not the Prince of Rajkot that put you in power, but it is the people of Madras that placed you in power and you should rise or fall with their representatives in this House. I ask in all seriousness whether the Government can take the responsibility of making such irresponsible statements which create a sort of fear and panic in the public mind. The Hon. Premier questioned me about the manner in which it appeared It is not a thing to be laughed over, but it is a thing to be seriously taken note of. I hope the Ministers will not do anything hereafter which would create panic and fear in the minds of the public of this Province.

"Sir, with these observations I support the cut motion which has been moved."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I do not really want to take up much of the time of the House at this hour, nor do I wish to strike any discordant note. Sir, one important factor has to be kept in mind when we are discussing the policy of the Ministers during the last year or even during the past period. It cannot be forgotten that this Ministry has been in power for 21 months. Sir, a good deal of justification for the remark comes from the fact that we on the Opposition are impatient. We have been treated to very many promises and very many pledges and every one in the country representing the Opposition in this House expects that all those pledges and promises should be put into action here and now."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Were the pledges made to the Opposition or to our own electorates?"

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BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, before we actually voted we were then electors and the distinction came in only much later. Then, Sir, the appeal was general and most of us formed the electorate then. But, I cannot refrain from pointing out to one fact and that is the fundamental fact, namely, the party which is in power to-day has got a great idealism behind it and that idealism is indeed the very life of the party's programme and the policy that is being followed by the party in office; and that idealism cannot be brought about in a day or two, or even in a year or two. I think, we ought to be a little more patient and give time to the Ministry to see whether they do what they really have promised to do. It is rather too early to come up with too pungent a criticism at this stage. If, after sufficient time is given to the Ministry in power, the Ministry does not come up to expectation and does not rise to the occasion, then certainly no one need say that the Ministry will stand self-condemned and that it has lost the confidence of the voters. Sir, there are several of its policies which I would like to criticise, but I would like to criticise them only in a fair manner.

" So far as their policy in the matter of the spread of Hindustani is concerned, I should think that the entire opposition to it is misguided and misconceived. The spread of Hindustani in this Province stands on a different footing from that obtaining in the United Provinces and the Central Provinces. It is demonstrable that so far as the present policy of the Government in the matter of the spread of Hindustani is concerned, it is exactly what we want, what we require, what is desirable and what is efficient. The Muslims and the Non-Muslims whose mother-tongues differ, are called upon to learn the language, but in the scripts which they choose. I consider that a language which is a via media or a combination of both, which is neither acceptable to the Urdu speaking people nor to the Hindi-speaking people, will not thrive. It is very difficult in these days to bring about a new language, a new literature, a new rhetoric and a new grammar; that attempt will fail. But that is not the attempt that is being made in this Province. The Hon. the Premier has made it perfectly clear that the language that is being introduced is one that is spoken in the great cities of Northern India. The script may be either Sanskrit or Arabic. So far as the script is concerned, the majority has no right to force its script on the minority; it has no right to compel the minority to accept that script. As things are to-day, there is a very fair promise of Hindus and Muslims learning the language in their own scripts and this will enure to the well-being of the country. There has been a fear expressed time and again that the fostering of Hindustani is going to affect Tamil. I am a lover of Tamil; I have studied the language; I like to read, write and sing in that 7-15 p.m.

facile language. I do not see how that language can be affected; I do not see any logical connexion between the introduction of Hindustani and the deterioration of Tamil. I cannot see how the stagnation, retrogression and deterioration of the language could be brought about by the introduction of Hindustani. It is open to the Muslims to give an impetus to the development of the Urdu language; it is equally open to the Hindus to give an impetus to the development of Tamil. When a common language is being set up, it does not prevent the Muslims from improving their own language nor does it prevent the Non-Muslims from giving full attention to their language and make it better than what it is. I do not think that the agitation that is going on against the spread of Hindustani is in the best interests of the country.

"I shall now pass on to the attitude of the Congress Ministry towards minorities. I do not like to stress that there are some facts which have occurred which tend to give the impression that the Government have been wholly and entirely communal. But before such charges can be laid at their doors, we have to ascertain whether these events which we see and which are demonstrable, are merely accidental or whether they are done with a design and whether they are the result of the deliberate policy of the Government. Before establishing it and seeing to which category it belongs, it will not be fair or proper to charge the Ministry with communalism. Communalism to a certain extent and up to a certain degree is necessary. Muslims want that their rights should be protected; their rights in the sphere of religion, religious endowments, observance of religion and the observance of their personal law. Certainly the majority is bound to give them that protection. I am sure that this Government has not denied them or any community protection in this sphere. Coming to the non-religious sphere, they should have a certain proportion in the governance of the country. I do not think that the Government have interfered with the working of the communal rule or proportion or the communal rotation. In so far as that has been the case, there can be no justification for saying that the Government have interfered with the rights of the Muslim minority or any other minority. But then, I must recall to the mind of hon. Members that there are certain events which have happened that always do raise the suspicion in the minds of the people even though they are not the results of the deliberate action of the Government. If it is a result of the deliberate action of the Government, then the Ministry will be bound to be charged with partiality and with the communal spirit. But what is the position? The communal Government Order is there in actual working. But in its actual working, there are certain difficulties and these difficulties could only be removed by stages and in the course of years. What the minority communities are really entitled to urge is that the administrative difficulties arising

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in the application of the communal proportion and rotation must be obliterated and things should be set right. That is why, Sir, I have been agitating for securing adequate representation to the minorities by adopting the principle of communal proportion wherever it is advantageous to the minority community and communal rotation wherever it is advantageous to it. If that is observed, there will be no room for any agitation on the part of the minorities; and that will speed up the rate of representation and ultimately secure the place they ought to secure by their numbers in the public service of the country.

"In the field of representation in the Legislature and local bodies, I do not think that anybody would be justified in saying that so far as the present state of affairs continues, any interference detrimental to the Muslim community has occurred The Local Boards Act and the District Municipalities Act were sought to be amended. I myself tried to bring into existence joint electorate with reservation of seats for minorities. It would have been a great thing if the Government in office had accepted the principle It would have set at rest the several complaints and grievances that the minority communities have been entertaining against the majority party in power. But the Government of the day—I do not know whether they have been well-advised or ill-advised—did not consider the desirability of the principle. I submit that if they accept the principle of joint electorate with reservation of seats for minorities in accordance with the population or with a certain amount of weightage, most of their grievances would have been wiped out.

"In the sphere of education, the Government have been very slow in the matter of the educational uplift of the backward communities. The charge has been laid against them that several Muslim schools have been abolished in the district of Malabar as being either inefficient or uneconomic schools."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, may not this be taken up in connexion with the Education Demand as it pertains more to that Demand than the one under discussion now?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is some over-lapping and the hon. Member may briefly refer to it."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not think that there is any point in the point of order.

'I want the Government to have, in the absence of any consensus of opinion among the Muslims, to continue these separate schools and in these separate schools the medium for purposes of instruction should be Urdu. I do not think that that policy had been given up by the Government. There is a tremendous scope for the expansion of education among the backward Muslim

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community and much effort has to be taken to carry education amongst them. The Hon. the Premier has promised that he would spend money like water for the education of the backward classes but he added that the money should be found. There should be the availability of funds. So far as possible I think, money has to be scrapped together for the education of the Muslim community and education amongst the backward classes should be speeded up.

" I have a complaint to make in the sphere of protecting and safeguarding of the charitable endowments that belong to the Muslim community."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Is this the last point the hon. Member is going to speak on? "

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I shall be brief but I cannot assure you, Sir, that this is my last point."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think the hon. Member will have to close in two minutes."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" The Government have a duty to discharge towards the protection of the Muslim charitable endowments. But they took very easy advantage of some opposition that existed among the members of the community and have shelved the measure that I brought. They have been in office for twenty-one months and yet nothing has been done in this direction. It is very necessary that something should be done at an early date by the Government in tbe matter of safeguarding and protecting the religious and charitable endowments of the Muslims.

" I wish to say that there has been a good deal of contralization and concentration in the present Government. There is a great need for exploiting the talents in the Province, and in matters to which the Government have no time to devote, the function should devolve on others when occasion arises. That would be a very healthy and sound principle. This can be secured by assigning the work to competent committees. The Ministers are already over-worked and it will be better and in the interests of efficiency that they should devolve some of their functions on such committees and bodies in whom they have confidence.

" It is natural and it is also inevitable that there should always be a certain amount of fear in the minds of the minority communities as to the attitude of the majority. I submit it largely depends upon how the majority acquits itself towards the minorities. It is particularly, specially and certainly true of the Muslim community. To the extent they inspire the confidence in the minority communities, they carry on good Government. The attitude of the Government towards the interests of the people of this Province has not particularly been very effective

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in this regard nor has it been fruitful of any results. Much effective action and much more efficient steps should be taken by the Local Government in bringing pressure to bear upon the Central Government to see that the interests and the life and property of our provincial nationals are protected adequately and effectively in Burma and other provinces. This Government have a great responsibility towards the people of this Province; they have much more responsibility to the greater provinces which we have outside our own boundaries and limits, and they must now at least insist that Indians, truly in spirit and letter, would be the representatives of the Government of India in all those places where Indian interests are involved.

" As regards taxation policy, taxation is a matter that is always liable to be criticized. In so far as I represent a constituency which is already overtaxed and would never like to be further taxed, I should oppose any taxation measure that the Government may bring. I am not opposing it for mere opposition's sake. I oppose it because already they are over-burdened with taxation and any new taxation must naturally be opposed. Let us take this turnover tax. I venture to say that this measure has evoked a degree of opposition which perhaps the Ministry did not anticipate. There have been several protest meetings during the course of this week and it is not known what the ultimate effect of these taxation measures will be. My submission to the Government would be this. Taxation proposals should be programmed and they should come in slowly rather than in quick succession. If instead of their coming in very suddenly they were to come in slow succession, probably they would have been taken in very easily. But the speed with which these taxation measures have 7-30 p.m. come one after the other and the way in which they are felt to affect the interests of the public at large have excited the people to a very large extent.

" Sir, one more point and I have done. With reference to local administration, I have not time to mention anything about the district boards or the municipalities. But I would only like to say something about the panchayats, as they require the immediate attention of the Hon. Minister in charge of them. There are innumerable panchayats in the Presidency, some small and some large. I would suggest that they should be classified according to their income; for, there are some panchayats getting an income of Rs. 2,000; some get an income of Rs. 3,000; some Rs. 4,000 and more. I would suggest that they should be classified according to their income. And also I would suggest those getting an income of Rs. 5,000 and more should be taken over by the Government and managed by them; the Government may appoint executive officers for them themselves in order that efficiency may be secured and proper administration may be ensured. To-day

not even four annas in the rupee of their income goes back to the tax-payer. If what I suggest is done, at least twelve annas in the rupee will be spent to the benefit of the tax-payer. The Hon. Minister should work out a scheme whereby the larger panchayats may be asked to bear a greater responsibility. If the Government should appoint executive officers to these panchayats, that will solve to a certain extent the problem of unemployment.

"Then, Sir, coming to the problem of racing and betting, I wish to add a few words. The Government have not done effectively anything to put down racing and betting. The book-makers and the bucket shops go on merrily as usual, in the same way they have been accustomed to so long. The Hon. Minister has no doubt abolished the third enclosure. It is not enough. He will do well to frame measures whereby racing and betting will be confined to the European community only. If necessary, he should bring in a Bill whereby he should prevent any Indian from entering the race-course. (Applause.) Let racing and betting be restricted to such of the members of the European community as want to indulge in it. Then and then only can the problem be solved. The Government have done the same with regard to the drink problem; even so with regard to racing and betting, they can prevent Indians from taking part in them. I agree with that principle as a Muslim. To me racing and betting are as bad as drinking.

"On the retrenchment policy of the Government I wish to say a word. It may be perhaps due to want of time or for want of suggestion that the Government have not taken to retrenchment effectively. There are departments in which there is a lot of waste going on. Economy can be introduced there very easily; somehow their attention has not been directed towards it. In some cases, in the name of economy several poor servants, low-paid men have been retrenched, leaving the fat-salaried people untouched. I submit these low-paid men require some sympathy at the hands of the Government; already their salary is considerably reduced. Instead of doing that, I would suggest to Government to re-organize departments. The Revenue Department requires re-organization; the Public Works Department requires re-organization; there is enormous waste in several departments, for instance, the Jail Department, and so many other departments. In these departments economy can be effected without any hardship to anybody or discontent to any officer of any grade.

"Sir, I close; I have no more points." (Laughter.)

As no member rose to speak Mr. Speaker called upon the Hon. Premier to reply. Immediately several members in the Opposition rose up in their seats.

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KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" There are several of us who want to speak."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I did not see anybody rise up and so I called upon the Hon. Premier to reply."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" May I make a suggestion, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" You may speak instead of making any suggestion." (Laughter.)

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" May I request that the House may be adjourned now and that discussion may be resumed on Monday? "

MR SPEAKER:—" Any member who wants to speak may now speak."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—' Mr. Speaker, I only want to place a few points before the Government so that they may consider them and remove the defects and redress the grievances pointed out. The last speaker made some reference to Prohibition, gambling, etc. The Government have done well in introducing Prohibition. Gambling is something as immoral and as harmful as drink. I want the Government to tackle gambling in the same way as they have done with drink. I think every Hon. Minister here knows that gambling is going on in so many clubs, respectable clubs, in Madras, and in the mufassal also. In my own place some poor people who go to these clubs, stake money on gambling, lose at least a couple of rupees daily and return home, not a bit wiser."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is not gambling."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" People that drink spend their money on it with the result that their families are ruined. Similarly in the case of gambling also the same thing happens.

" I pass on to my next point. The Hon. Minister in charge of Religious Endowments told us some time back that he is thinking of bringing in a comprehensive measure in regard to charitable endowments; or to amend the existing Act so as to make its working more efficient."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You have full opportunity to speak on this when you come to that Demand."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am now speaking on the policy of the Government only. The Muslim endowments are now being administered under an old Act; that Act is so old that it has to be mended or ended.

Before the Muslim endowments are brought under the ambit of the proposed bill, let the Hon. Minister consult the leaders of the Muslim community in order to avoid misunderstanding and then do the necessary thing. The Muslim endowments are now administered under the antiquated Act No. XX of 1863. Let him bring forward a comprehensive measure so that all the religious endowments may be governed by a single Act.

"Then, I come to the working of the communal Government Order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You will deal with it without repeating the arguments of the previous speakers."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am glad that the Government are not of opinion that the communal Government Order should be repealed; by all means you should continue the Order. But I want only that it should be properly worked. There is something wrong somewhere in its working. The Government have no sympathy for that Order, although they have simply allowed it to continue. If they were sympathetic they would have seen where the mistake lies and corrected it. Two out of every twelve vacancies are allotted to Muslims according to the Government Order; but there are several instances where no Muslim has been appointed even though Muslim vacancies occurred repeatedly. I had sent an interpellation asking the Government how many Muslim clerks from South Kanara have been selected as Deputy Tahsildars recently, and the answer was 'none.' To-day in reply to a similar interpellation by my friend, Mr. Mir Akram Ali, it was stated that four Muhammadan turns were passed over in his district in connexion with the selection of Deputy Tahsildars. In several cases, in regard to the appointment of clerks in the Revenue Department, etc., the usual reply of the Government is that suitable candidates from the particular community are not available. To that I will say this: the Services Commission must be asked to select a certain number of candidates of a particular community; although a number of candidates with the required qualifications apply to the Commission, they reject them as not suitable. I would request Government to adopt here also the same procedure as is adopted in connexion with the selection of candidates for the I.C.S. A competitive examination is held for the I.C.S., and if as a result of it, the required number of Muslims is not obtained within the required number, they take to nomination by selecting the Muslim candidates in the order of efficiency below the required number. I request some such system must be adopted here also. But the Government might turn round and say, they are following the rules. Why don't you modify the rule? Why should there

be a higher standard for the Services Commission than the standard for the universities? It cannot be said that the Madras University, the Annamalai University and the Mysore University standards are all low. Have they not been approved by the Government and the Services Commission? When such is the case, why should the Services Commission reject the candidates by applying a different standard? As I said before, the Government should adopt some method here like that adopted by the Government of India in connexion with the I.C.S. selection. In several districts men in service have not been put in the list of candidates for appointment as Deputy Tahsildars as some of them were said to have been in the lower division. I know several cases where men in the lower division have been put in the list of Deputy Tahsildars.

"I want to say a word about panchayats. The Government are very anxious to invest the panchayats with all powers of administration; they want that everything is done by the panchayats, even the collection of revenue and the administration of justice. When such is the case, sufficient encouragement should be given to the speedy formation of panchayats. The Panchayat Officers have to serve two masters, one the district board and the other the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities. The Panchayat Officers must be entirely under the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities; they should not be made the servants of two masters; then only they can develop the panchayats properly. Very often the interests of the district boards and panchayats clash; hence it is necessary that the district boards should not interfere in any way with the work of the Panchayat Officers.

"I have to say something about the taxation policy. I have spoken already about this during the general discussion. Of 7-45 P.M.
course this popular Government will take into consideration the opinion of the people and ascertain what the general desire of the people is. The tobacco tax is a thing which will hit very hard the poor people who cultivate tobacco. If the tobacco tax along with the turnover tax is introduced, it will be a very great burden on the people, especially in the West Coast. The Premier has travelled, Sir, from Cannanore to Mangalore and has seen with what difficulty tobacco is cultivated with fish manure and in large quantities in those parts. I request the Government, therefore, to see that the tobacco tax at least is not introduced and the difficulty of the people is taken into consideratoin."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"I have got two cut motions, Sir, with regard to this Demand. I shall confine myself at this late hour to the administration of local bodies. As I propose to speak from this side of the House, I propose to touch the Ministry lightly without drawing blood. I do not propose to say anything

very strong in regard to this matter. I am not a member of any local body, nor do I hold brief to any particular local body. I speak on principle. The policy pursued by this Government so far has been very unsatisfactory with regard to these local bodies. This democratic Government has got to respect the local institutions, the local bodies which are democratic institutions that have been working here long before Provincial Autonomy was brought into existence. Instead of encouraging these bodies what do we see? Power after power is being taken away from the local bodies and given to the Government officials. On what interpretation of 'democracy' Sir, is this kind of procedure being adopted? I would ask this popular Government to explain it. It may be true that this is a popular Government; but thereby it does not mean that these local bodies which have been operating in our country for a long time should all be discouraged and abolished and their powers given to the officials. This, Sir, is a short-sighted policy which the Government should not adopt. This policy of officialization is against a real democratic Government and democratic feelings which ought to be encouraged and fostered in the country. Board after board which has been presided over by Congressmen has passed resolutions protesting against the curtailment of powers by this Government and has stated that it is against the spirit of democracy and against the spirit of the Local Boards Act and against the very principle for which that Act was framed and brought into force. As a principle of administration, I think, it ought to be understood that these bodies are the training grounds for the art of administration and self-government; and as such these training grounds ought to be encouraged more and more by the Government with due regard to popular ideals and democratic ideals to strengthen this country. If you really want to promote the growth of democracy and the spirit of enterprise and initiative in the people, I think the best way would be to strengthen these institutions and not to curb their power and keep them as if they are of no account.

"Further more, the Congress Government have laid a policy to capture these local bodies, places of power. Everywhere it is their programme to capture these places of power. I would ask the Congress Government why this capturing places of power alone? Why not capture them for improvement and reform of these local bodies? If there is corruption in these bodies, if there is factious spirit, it lies in the hands of the Government to improve these local bodies by making proper persons to get into them, by putting right type of men into them. The Government should know that their curbing the power of the local bodies will do a mischief which will have a far-reaching effect. That will be a very sad thing when we are thinking of democratic progress in

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this country. (Interruption.) If owing to any unfortunate circumstance the Government go out of office and the administration is taken over by the bureaucracy, these local bodies will be left more helpless than before.

"In other self-governing countries, especially in England and other places, where these local bodies are carrying on government, they are not curbed. On the other hand more powers are given, they are liberalized and made to work more and more for the benefit of the people. I have got a Minister here on the Treasury Bench who has been good enough to make a remark in one of his speeches; and that is that we must have local bodies, if we want to be a civilized community and that is the Hon. Mr. Ramanathan. This pernicious policy of curtailing the powers of the local bodies should be stopped. I would like to have an explicit policy enunciated on the floor of the House by the Minister concerned or the Prime Minister and I would suggest that a more liberal outlook and liberal principle be adopted with regard to these local bodies. With these words, Sir, I support the cut motion."

V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"பெருமைதங்கிய ஸ்பீகர் அவர்களே! இந்த மந்திரி சபையானது இந்த மாகாணத்து மக்களுக்கு வேண்டிய முறைச் செய்வதை மறந்து, வடநாட்டவரைத் திருப்தி செய்வதற்காக கட்டாய ஹிந்தியைக் கொண்டுவந்து இம்மாகாணத்தில் புகுத்தியதை எதிர்த்த இம்மாகாண ஆண்கள், பெண்கள், குழந்தைகள் விஷயத்தில்......"

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member is reading from a long manuscript. The hon. Member is not even able to read the manuscript. It will be better if he gives a few substantial points in a few words."

*****V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR**:—"பலாத்காரத்தை உபயோகித்து, போலீஸ் உதவியைக்கொண்டு, கிரிமினல் சட்ட திருத்தச் சட்டத்தின் 124–A செக்ஷனை உபயோகித்து அவர்களை ஜெயிலில் போடுவது இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கே அவமானத்தை உண்டாக்குவதாகும். இந்த அஸெம்பிளி மெம்பர்கள் மீது கண்டனை கூறவும் ஹேதுவாக இருக்கிறது. இரும்பு மறியல் செய்தவர்கள் பலாத்காரத்துடன் வண்டிகளுக்கு முன்படுத்தும், வியாபாரக் கடைகளுக்கு முன்படுத்தும் இன்னும் வம்புகள் செய்து கஷ்ட நஷ்டங்கள் உண்டாக்கினவர்களை மந்திரி கோஷ்டியார் ஜெய கோஷஞ் செய்து சபாஷ் கொடுக்கவும் முன் வந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இந்த தமிழ் நாட்டிலே கட்டாய ஹிந்தி வேண்டாமென்பவர்கள், 'தமிழ் வாழ்க, ஹிந்தி ஒழிக' என்று சொன்னால், அதற்காக போலீஸ் உதவியைக்கொண்டு கிரிமினல் சட்ட திருத்த சட்டத்தின் 124-A செக்ஷனை உபயோகித்து, ஆண்களையும் பெண்களையும் குழந்தைகளையும் ஜெயிலில் போட்டு வாடவைப்பது நீதியா? அவர்களில் இருவர் ஜெயிலில் மாண்டுபோனதைக் குறித்து இம்மாகாண மக்கள் மனம் வருந்துவதுடன் மேற்படியார்கள் பிரிவினால் உடல் மெலிந்து வாட்டத்துடன் இருக்கும் அவர்களுடைய குடும்பத்தார்களுக்கும் தங்களுடைய வருத்தத்தைத் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார்கள். தமிழுக்காக அவர்கள் தியாகஞ்செய்து உடல் நீத்தமைக்காக அவர்களைப் பாராட்டியும் அவர்களுடைய ஆன்மா நன்னிலை அடையுமாறும் கடவுளைப் பிரார்த்தித்திருக்கிறார்கள்.

[18th March 1939

[V. S. T. Shaik Mansoor Tharaganar Sahib Bahadur]

பெரியார் ராமசாமி நாயக்கர் அவர்கள் இக்கட்டாய ஹிந்தியில் ‘கட்டாயம்’ என்று இருப்பதை எடுத்து விடும்படி கேட்டுப் பிரசாரஞ் செய்ததற்காக அவரைத் தண்டித்து ஜெயிலில் போட்டு ஒழுங்கான உணவு கொடாமல் நோய் வாய்ப்படு ஆளாக்கியிருப்பதும் அல்லாமல் அவர்களுடைய காரை ஜப்தி செய்திருப்பதையும் கேள்விப்படுகிறோம். அவருடைய கார் ஜப்தி செய்யப்பட்டிருப்பதை திருப்பிக் கொடுத்துவிட்டு அல்லது அதை கவர்ன்மெண்டு உபயோகத்திற்கு அவர் ஞாபகார்த்தமாய் வைத்துக்கொண்டு, ராமசாமி பெரியார் அவரை ஜெயிலிலிருந்து விடுதலை செய்யும்படியும் வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“முஸ்லீம்கள் படித்தவர்களில் அதிகம்பேர்கள் வேலையில்லாது இருப்பதால் போதுமான உத்தியோகங்களை கொடுக்கும்படியாக வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

* MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. Speaker, my main object in giving notice of this cut motion that stands in my name is to elicit information from the Hon. the Premier. Last year, about the Budget session, a resolution for the formation of provinces on a linguistic basis was very ably moved in a very able speech by my hon. Friend, Mr. Konda Venkatappayya Pantulu. There is a great deal of difference between a resolution that is moved on behalf of the Government from the Government benches and a resolution that is moved from this side. There is much force in it when it comes from the Government members and the Government will be very keen about it and they won't be indifferent towards it. The public have been very anxious to know what has been done in the matter and the public have got a right to know. We have not been in a position to know what has been done in this matter since. During the general discussion of the Budget last month, my hon. Friend, Mr. K. V. R. Swami also referred to this matter. But no answer was given. I humbly request the Hon. Premier to take us into his confidence and say what has become of the resolution, that is, whether it has been thrown into the waste paper basket or some steps are being taken in this matter. As it is already late, I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak on this motion.”

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. on Monday, the 20th March 1939.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 20th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Alleged guard by the Police over Natarajan, anti-Hindi prisoner, during his temporary release while in the hospital.

* 935 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH: With reference to the answer given by the Hon. the Prime Minister to starred question No. 627-A on 18th January 1939, will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether when Natarajan was in the General Hospital, he was guarded by the Police throughout; and

(*b*) if so, why, in spite of his alleged temporary release, he was so guarded?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Prior to October 1938, prisoners requiring hospital treatment outside the jail in which they were confined were temporarily released, subject to the prisoner, or any relative or friend of the prisoner, executing a bond and abiding by certain conditions. The period spent in hospital would be subsequently remitted by the Government under section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

" In October 1938, in order to introduce a less cumbersome procedure, the Prisons Act was amended by the addition of the new section 39-A, according to which any period during which a prisoner undergoes treatment in a hospital is deemed to be part of the period of his detention in the prison, and therefore the Government are bound to impose such conditions as may be deemed necessary in each case in regard to guarding the prisoner while in hospital."

[20th March 1939

Policy of Government regarding the peasant agitation in certain taluks of South Kanara.

* 936 [a] *Q.*—KHAN BAHADUR P. M. ATTAKOYA THANGAL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the troubles caused by peasant agitators in certain taluks of South Kanara, adjoining the Malabar district and the shooting down dead of a jenmi and his kariyasthan as a result of the same;

(*b*) whether there had been any such cases there before like that;

(*c*) whether some jenmis and others had given statements to the Collector of South Kanara to the effect that they hesitated to report to the authorities the atrocities committed by peasant agitators, as the latter threatened the people by saying that the administration was now in the hands of their Congress Ministers;

(*d*) if so, whether suitable action will be taken against such agitators; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to issue a communiqué on the situation explaining their policy in the matter in the interests of loyal and law-abiding citizens?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"(*a*) The Government are aware of the formation of peasant organizations and their agitation in South Kanara. The hon. Member presumably refers to the murder of Sri Kathan Koran Nambiyar and his servant. This had no connexion at all with the peasant agitation.

"(*b*) Murders have been known to occur in that area, in the past.

"(*c*) & (*d*) No such statements were made in writing. In conversation with the Collector some jenmis alleged such fears but the Collector explained how mistaken they were.

"(*e*) The Government deprecate public statements which only serve to magnify these matters and create needless apprehensions. They do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by publishing communiqués denying such baseless accusations."

SRI E. KANNAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that even the ordinary crimes that take place in South Kanara are now being brought on the head of the peasant workers since the agitation began in that district?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is difficult for me to accept that proposition, Sir."

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[a] The Member was not in his seat the question was answered with the consent of the Speaker.

20th March 1939]

Transfer of Ichchapur and Sompeta taluks to the Orissa Government.

* 937 *Q.*—SRI P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have received a claim from the Government of Orissa in respect of two more taluks of Ichchapur and Sompeta to be further amalgamated with Orissa; and

(*b*) how the Government propose to meet this fresh demand of the Oriyas?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the resolution passed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly demanding the inclusion of these two taluks in that Province? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" No, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether representations have been received from some Ganjam zamindars to re-amalgamate their portions with the Madras Presidency? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It is possible, Sir, for these boundary disputes to be going on for a long time."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" I beg to repeat, Sir. May I know whether it is a fact that representations have been received by this Government, subsequent to their transfer, from the zamindars in South Ganjam that their portions may be re-amalgamated with the Madras Province? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I would prefer notice being given, Sir."

Action, if any, taken on the resolutions passed at the Village Officers' Conference held at Calicut in December 1938.

* 938 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at the Village Officers' Conference held at Calicut in December last; and

(*b*) if so, what they have done in the matter?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) The copy of the resolutions which were apparently passed in December reached the Government on 28th February.

" (b) The contents have been noted but the attention of the hon. Member is invited to Instruction IX of the Instructions for the submission and receipt of petitions and other papers of the same class addressed to the Government of Madras, published with Public (Services) Department Notification No. 92, dated 4th February 1937, at pages 385–386 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette,* dated 2nd March 1937."

Supply of application forms for loans under the Madras Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1935.

* 939 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a sufficient supply of application forms for loans has been made to the Revenue Divisional Officers in the districts for distribution among ryots intending to apply for loans granted under the Agriculturists' Loans (Madras Amendment) Act, 1935; and

(*b*) if not, whether the Government will take steps to ensure such supply in sufficient quantity at an early date?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Adequate arrangements have been made for the supply of the requisite number of application forms for use in the districts. If in any case official forms are not available privately printed forms may be used by the applicants."

Appointment of a Notary Public at Karaikudi.

* 940 *Q.*—SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in view of the answer given to my starred question No. 114, dated 19th August 1938, the Government have considered the desirability of appointing a Notary Public at Karaikudi; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have since issued orders authorizing all Notaries Public in the Province who have been or may in future be appointed as such under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, to attest every document that is required by any law to be attested by a Notary Public. The Sub-Registrar, Karaikudi, who is a Notary Public under the Negotiable Instruments Act can therefore attest all such documents in future."

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Repairs to the irrigation works affected by the recent floods in the Vamsadhara.

* 941 *Q.*—Sri C. NARASIMHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any irrigation works of the Government have been damaged by the recent Vamsadhara floods;

(*b*) if so, how many and what the estimated loss to the Government is; and

(*c*) whether the Government have taken up the work of repairs and how long it will take to complete them?

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) One tank and five channels. The cost of restoration of these irrigation works is Rs. 40,000.

" (*c*) The works have been taken up for repairs. Immediate repairs required in the interests of the standing crops have already been carried out and other repairs will be completed as early possible."

Development of the load of electricity in licensees' areas.

* 942 *Q.*—Sri B. T. SESHADRIACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have enquired into and are satisfied with the development of the load of electricity in licensees' areas having regard to the number of years they have been holding the licences; and

(*b*) whether the development of load would not have been better in those areas if the Government had themselves worked the schemes?

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*) No enquiry has been made. The Government satisfy themselves through the reports of their officers that the terms and conditions of licences issued and the provisions of the Indian Electricity Act are duly complied with.

" (*b*) All conditions being equal, the Government Electricity department may be expected to develop an area better than a private company. It is, however, a matter of opinion."

Sri V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware of the fact that many private electricity companies have not shown any enterprise in rural areas, especially for agricultural purposes? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" The Government are aware that many licensees have not developed the rural area as much as they ought to have done."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, what steps the Government propose to take to bring electricity to the doors of the agriculturists in such rural areas where private companies have shown lack of enterprise in expanding electricity?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" The Government cannot interfere in areas that are given to the licensees. But the Government are urging them to develop the agricultural and industrial load and whenever any person brought to the notice of the Government cases where the licensees have not attended to this demand, the Government have looked into the matter."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I inform the Hon. the Minister for Public Works that in the Vellore area, outside the urban area, several applications for electricity supply for agricultural purposes had been made to the Vellore Electricity Supply Corporation three or four years ago, but still no electricity has been supplied?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" If the hon. Member will draw my attention by means of a letter, I will make enquiries into the matter."

Proposal to reduce the rate charged for the supply of electricity in Kumbakonam and distribution of energy of uniform strength.

* 943 *Q.*—SRI V. BHUVARAHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that last year, electricity consumers of Kumbakonam refused to take electricity from the Kumbakonam Electric Supply Corporation for sometime as a protest against the Corporation's refusal to reduce the rates as demanded by the consumers;

(*b*) whether the Kumbakonam Municipality submitted a memorandum on 24th October 1938, pointing out the unfairness of the Electric Supply Corporation charging the same rates even after their getting current from the Pykara System at considerably less cost;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the pressure is low and unsteady in some places so much so that a 40-watts lamp gives less light than 25 watts; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to take proper steps in the matter?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative. Orders have been issued in both cases fixing the rates to be charged by the licensees.

"(c) & (d) The distribution system at Kumbakonam was tested by the officers of the Electricity department and it was found that due to inadequate points of supply and sections of mains, the service to consumers was not satisfactory. The Chief Engineer for Electricity has taken up the question with the licensees and a report has been called for from him as to the steps taken by the licensees to rectify the defects and improve service."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know what were the rates and by how much reduction was demanded?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"That does not arise out of this question, Sir."

Alleged conviction of a bus-driver for wearing a white khadi cap while on duty.

* 944 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the driver of the bus No. M.C.Z./389 was charge-sheeted by the Wandiwash Sub-Inspector of Police and convicted and sentenced in the first week of January 1939 by the Sub-Magistrate of Wandiwash (North Arcot district) to pay a fine of Rs. 3 for wearing a white khadi cap while on duty; and

(*b*) whether a copy of the judgment will be placed on the table?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The answer to clause (*a*) is in the negative, and consequently clause (*b*) does not arise."

Reduction in the number of trips performed by the buses of the Elathur Union Motor Service, Calicut.

* 945 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Superintendent of Police, Malabar, has reduced the number of trips of each bus of the Elathur Union Motor Service (Calicut) from five to three and has thus allowed each bus to run only 42 miles a day and if so, what the special reason for it is;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that each of the two buses of the Muslim Motor Service running through the same line is allowed to run more than 100 miles a day and if so, what the special reason for this preferential treatment is; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the said Service has petitioned to the authorities to raise the number of trips to five as before and if so, what was done in the matter?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) The Malabar District Road Traffic Board have reduced from five to three the number of trips of each bus plying between Calicut and Elathur only. By running three trips on this route each bus covers about 42 miles a day. It was considered that three trips would be sufficient in the interests of the public, in view of the railway facilities which also exist along the route.

" (b) The two buses of the Muslim Motor Service run on an extended route, namely, Calicut-Elathur-Quilandi-Perambra, and cover about 98 miles a day.

" (c) Yes. The matter is under the consideration of the Road Traffic Board, Malabar."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that this particular bus is being penalized by the Malabar District Road Traffic Board for the simple reason that the president of the motor union is a prominent Congress worker in that locality? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am afraid I cannot accept the statement of the hon. Member."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Muslim Motor Service is given preferential treatment because it is giving free lifts to the Police at Calicut? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I must again refute the statement of the hon. Member."

Self-supporting jails in the Province.

* 946 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any jails which are self-supporting or nearly so; and

(b) the reasons for the same?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) The Central Jail, Coimbatore, is self-supporting. The hon. Member is also referred to Statement No. XIII (Financial) appended to the Jail Administration Report for 1937.

"(b) Profitable industries such as spinning, weaving, dyeing, tailoring, tent-making and binding are carried on in the Central Jail, Coimbatore."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, why other jails also cannot be made self-supporting? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am examining the whole question. But it is difficult to say what will be done."

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SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know, Sir, whether hundreds of the prisoners are lying idle, doing nothing, in other jails? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am afraid I cannot accept the statement of the hon. Member."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I request the Hon. the Minister to give effect as early as possible to the recent resolutions on the subject passed by the Jail Visitors' Conference held at Madras? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am afraid I cannot give any assurance because I have not received as yet copies of the resolutions passed."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" I presume that the Hon. Minister presided over the conference."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Member's presumption is incorrect."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Was not the Hon. Minister present, and did he not speak, at the conference? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I was not actually, physically, present there when the resolution was passed."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to make all jails self-supporting? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Member will please put a separate question in this matter as it will involve a long answer."

Construction of buildings in Madichiam, Madura, for the Government Headquarters Hospital, Madura.

* 947 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) for how long the Government General Hospital has been under construction in Madichiam, Madura;

(*b*) how much longer will it take for completion and occupation;

(*c*) what the original estimate was;

(*d*) what the actual cost is likely to be after it is completed;

(*e*) for how many beds there is accommodation in the existing hospital;

(*f*) how many patients have been in the hospital for the last three months; and

(*g*) for how many beds there is accommodation in the new building?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(a) In March 1927, the Government sanctioned the scheme for the construction of a new Headquarters Hospital at Madura. The work was started in the latter part of the year 1928.

"(b) It is estimated at present that it will take roughly two more years to complete the work.

"(c) The approximate estimate of the scheme sanctioned in 1927 was Rs. 11,67,500. This was however revised and a fresh estimate amounting to Rs. 15,99,000 was sanctioned in March 1928 prior to the beginning of the construction.

"(d) It cannot be stated definitely what the actual cost is likely to be after the building is completed. It is however expected to be Rs. 16,11,000.

"(e) Judged according to the space available, the existing hospital can accommodate 250 beds.

"(f) The following statement shows the number of patients treated in the hospital:—

Month.	In-patients.		Out-patients.	
	Total treated.	Daily average.	Total treated.	Daily average.
1938—				
November	869	535·20	8,430	994·17
December	783	548·83	6,903	948·70
1939—				
January	907	536·81	7,091	946·68

"(g) 484."

Execution of the protected water-supply scheme for Chodavaram.

* 948 Q.—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme for protected water-supply for Chodavaram was first considered in 1924;

(b) whether the amount required of the Panchayat Board, Chodavaram, was not deposited with the Government already;

(c) the reasons for not making a beginning for carrying out the necessary operations;

(d) whether it is a fact that the public and the Panchayat had repeatedly requested the Government to expedite the drinking water-supply scheme in view of the brackish nature of the majority of the wells in the village; and

(e) what steps the Government propose to take this year?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—(a), (b) & (c) A scheme for protected water-supply to the Chodavaram Panchayat Board was sanctioned in 1924. The cost was to be met by the Government, the Panchayat Board and the District Board in the proportion of 3:2:1. The Panchayat Board

paid its share of the cost. Subsequently the estimate was revised by the Sanitary Engineer to provide for certain alterations proposed in the distribution system. The Panchayat Board and the District Board have to make an additional contribution to meet the increase in the cost of the scheme according to the revised estimate. The question as to how this is to be found is under correspondence with the local bodies concerned. Hence the delay in sanctioning the execution of the scheme.

" (*d*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*e*) The Government will consider the question of provision of funds for the scheme after the financing of the scheme according to the revised estimate is settled."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I request the Hon. Minister to state how the original estimate of Rs. 40,000 swelled subsequently to about Rs. 60,000? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I cannot answer for the figures but I think the amount is nearly correct."

Shifting of Tanur Experimental Station to Baindur.

* 949 *Q.*—KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the shifting of the Tanur Experimental Station (Fisheries) has been decided upon on the recommendation of the Director of Fisheries;

(*b*) whether the Director had any recommendation to that effect from local officers;

(*c*) what the special facilities are which Baindur has for carrying on research work; and

(*d*) what facilities of approach by means of railway Baindur offers?

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have themselves come to the conclusion that the research station should be shifted to Calicut.

" (*c*) The Government are not aware of any special facilities which Baindur has for carrying on fishery research. It is a small seaport town, 77 miles to the north of Mangalore.

"(*d*) The nearest railway station is Mangalore. Baindur is accessible by regular public motor service."

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Objections to the use of Tuticorin salt in preference to Sanekatte and Ratnagiri salt in the fish-curing yards of this Province.

*950 *Q.*—KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) why in this Province Tuticorin salt is supplied in fish-curing yards in preference to Sanekatte and Ratnagiri salt;

(*b*) which is the cheaper salt; and

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that for fish-curing yards people concerned prefer Sanekatte and Ratnagiri salt to the one from Tuticorin?

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" (*a*) (*b*) & (*c*) The curers in the fish-curing yards on the West coast prefer the white powdery Tuticorin salt to the dark, large grained Sanekatte or Ratnagiri salt. The former is finer, gets easily dissolved and strikes the fish sooner. The fish cured with that salt has a whiter and better colour and commands a good market. The Tuticorin salt is also cheaper than the Sanekatte or Ratnagiri salt."

Protest against the abolition of the post of Assistant Director of Fisheries, West Coast.

*951 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state whether the Government have received representations from the fishermen of Malabar protesting against the abolition of the post of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, West Coast?

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" The answer is in the affirmative."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" May I know whether the post was abolished? "

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" The post was retrenched on grounds of economy which members very often press upon the Government."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" In view of the fact that the Fisheries department has to function, will the Government be pleased to revive the post of the Assistant Director of Fisheries? "

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" In view of the fact that there is no need for this special post, the work is to be carried on by another minor post in the place of this, the post being one of Sub-Assistant Director."

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Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government intend to close this department altogether?"

Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—" The hon. Member has no reason to apprehend this."

Sri S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know how the abolition of the post of Assistant Director affects the fishermen?"

Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—" The hon. Member must make enquiries in the West Coast."

Sri A. KARUNAKARA MENON:—" Will not the abolition of the post of the Assistant Director of Fisheries in Malabar reduce the importance of Malabar as a fishing centre under the Government?"

Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Not by any means."

Prevention of the import of foreign paddy and rice into this Province.

* 952 *Q.*—Sri P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the quantity of paddy and rice imported into the Province of Madras from Burma, Siam and other places abroad, during the current season since 1st December 1938 is, and to what districts these imports have been sent;

(*b*) whether these imports affected adversely the price level of paddy and rice in the local market; and

(*c*) what steps the Government have taken till now and propose to take hereafter to prevent the import of paddy and rice into this Province from Burma, Siam and other places outside this Province and what the result is?

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI:—" (*a*) A statement [a] showing the imports of paddy and rice into the Province from foreign countries during December 1938 and January 1939 is placed on the table of the House. Information regarding the districts to which these imports were sent by rail or otherwise is not available.

" (*b*) Except at Calicut, the price level of paddy and rice did not fall in the local market as a result of large imports during the months of December 1938 and January 1939.

" (*c*) This is a matter entirely within the province of the Government of India and this Government are in communication with them, and it is not customary to place such confidential correspondence on the table of the House."

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a Printed as Appendix on page 412 infra.

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AN HON. MEMBER:—"May I know what the result of the correspondence between the Central Government and this Government is?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"The correspondence is still going on."

Manufacture of paper with Ecta grass.

* 953 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the proposal to examine the question of manufacture of paper with Ecta grass in connexion with the Papanasam Hydro-Electric Project has been examined;

(*b*) if so, what the result is; and

(*c*) for how long this question has been under consideration?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"The matter has been under the consideration of Government since March 1938. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the paragraph on 'Paper manufacture' at page 50 of Mr. Green's note on 'The Economic Resources of the Province of Madras and Possibilities of their development,' a copy of which is available in the Library of the Madras Legislature, for reference."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know whether there are any prospects of manufacturing paper in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I wish the hon. Member to read page 50."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know whether the hon. Member can give a simple answer?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It will take at least ten minutes to read pages 50 and 51. I wish the hon. Member reads those pages and then I am prepared to answer."

State aid to the ceramic industry in the East Coast.

* 954 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state what the nature of interest taken by the Government in the ceramic factories in the East Coast is?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"The Government have agreed to take shares to the value of Rs. 20,000 in the East Coast Ceramic Industries, Limited, Vizagapatam. They had also agreed to take shares worth Rs. 10,000 in the Stoneware Pipes (Madras), Limited, Madras, subject to certain conditions. Subsequently, however, the promoter of the stoneware pipes gave up the idea of floating a joint stock company."

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Construction of a road connecting the Adi-Dravida 'nattam' in Perathur village, Tiruvallur taluk, with the Red Hills road.

* 955 *Q.*—SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Adi-Dravida 'nattam' in Perathur village (No. 77) of Tiruvallur taluk, has not been provided with roads connecting the nattam with Red Hills road;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government sanctioned Rs. 600 to lay a road in 1932; and

(*c*) what action has been taken by the Government so far?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (*a*) There is a cart-track from Red Hills-Tiruvallur road to Nathakoil Thebbai *via* Vishnuvakkam and Perathur. There is another cart-track from Sevapet to Kilakur which can also be used by the inhabitants of the nattam.

" (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*c*) The Government have not taken any action, as the provision of roads is primarily the function of the local boards."

Re-opening of the centre for S.S.L.C. Examination at Chodavaram.

* 956 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he received representations from the public of Chodavaram to make Chodavaram a centre for S.S.L.C. Examination as it was the case prior to 1937; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to re-open the centre at least in 1940 in consideration of the extreme inconvenience and expense to the majority of the young pupils of Chodavaram taluk?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The question of re-adjustment of centres for the examination in 1940 will be considered."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" As it is not a new centre, will the Hon. Minister take into consideration its revival as early as possible? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" The reconsideration itself will be in 1940."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" What are the conditions governing the abolition of a centre? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" There are various considerations that make Government close down some of the centres throughout the Presidency."

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Steps taken by the present Government for the rapid spread of education among the Harijans and women.

* 957 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the present Government have taken any steps, since assuming power, to help the rapid spread of education among the Harijans and females in respect of secondary and collegiate education; and

(*b*) if so, what these are?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the annual reports on Public Instruction."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether any special facility is given and whether there is anything in the report. So far as I am aware there is nothing."

" THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" There are facilities for the education of Harijans and females. If the hon. Member will read the report I am sure he will find many of the facilities."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" What are the steps that are being taken by the Government for the education of the Harijans? "

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS ENTERTAINMENTS TAX BILL, 1939.

3-30 p.m. * THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to introduce a Bill [a] to impose a tax on amusements and other entertainments in the Province of Madras and move—

'*that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—*

Sri Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai,
Mir Akram Ali Sahib Bahadur,
K. Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur,
A. K. Kader Kutti Sahib Bahadur,
Mr. G. E. Walker,
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur,
Sri T. S. Chokkalingam Pillai,
Srimathi G. Ammanna Raja,
Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman,
Sri G. Krishnamurti,
The Hon. Sri S. Ramanathan,
The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi, and
The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar (the Hon. Mover),
with the instruction that a Report may be made before the 27th March 1939 '.

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a Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 7th March 1939.

20th March 1939] [Sri C. Rajagopalachariar]

"The position is this: Under the Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Act, 1926, a tax is being imposed and recovered on behalf of the Corporation of Madras and some municipalities and a very few local boards. The present proposal is to repeal this Act and to have a provincial tax and to compensate the local bodies for the loss of the revenue that they have been hitherto receiving in this respect. This Bill was referred to by me while presenting the Budget this year and I do not think I need detain the House very long on this question. The proposed tax is about three pies for two annas or six pies for four annas, that is to say, about 12½ per cent. The Select Committee will thrash out the Bill in detail and I hope there will not be much need for a lengthy debate on the motion I am making. I beg that the House may accept my motion that a Select Committee be appointed to submit its report before the 27th March 1939."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"On a point of order, may I know, Sir, whether the financial work now going on will not be interrupted by the introduction of this Bill at this stage?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should have raised this point earlier. The question has been propounded to the House and so the discussion must go on. All the same, since the hon. Member has raised the point I should tell him that the Speaker can give his consent to this business and the Speaker has given the consent."

* MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"Mr. Speaker, I must support this Bill because it is a well-recognized fiscal measure. Almost every country practically is levying this tax and consequently, I do not think anybody can possibly raise any objection to such a tax in principle. But I do feel that this Government is rather in the attitude of people in the East End of London, who, when they see a stranger, bawl out, 'Here's a stranger. Heave half-a-brick at him.' Well, immediately this Government see any possible movement, either for good or for evil—I think the entertainments in connexion with films are about half evil and about half good—they seize upon it as a measure for taxation. I do suggest that in the present stage of the film industry—I rather stress the film industry, because after all that is what will be paying most of the taxation—it is rather early to put on a tax. It may not—I think—actually kill the industry, but will distinctly retard the film industry. I wish therefore that this tax had been deferred until some later date when the film industry may be on a more solid foundation than it is at the present moment.

"I accept, as I said, the principle of the tax, but, nevertheless there is this further principle involved in the tax, viz., that it is a sort of foretaste of what is going to come in a month or two and that it is virtually a turnover tax. That is to say,

all the entertainment houses will have to pay this tax whether they are making a profit or not. Therefore this becomes a turnover tax and a rather heavy turnover tax in the shape of 12½ per cent, although I admit that generally entertainments that are well-founded should pay the tax in this proportion. In fact in the case of some of the American films, I should be only too glad if the Prime Minister would be good enough to increase the tax to 1,000 per cent and thereby completely put them out of existence. But whether the tax is really worth it at present is rather difficult to say until we have seen the working of it. So, I say that we accept the Bill and would wait and see to what extent this legitimate tax on lighter entertainments may possibly relieve us of the necessity for many other forms of taxation.

"I suppose the principal objection, which will probably be voiced by others, to this tax will be that it will be unfair to certain municipalities. The municipalities which are now levying this tax will be able to receive a fair share of the tax; whereas those municipalities which are not now levying this tax will be rather in the position of those minor ports, which did not spend their funds when they should have done so, and therefore they will not get the benefit of this tax. I do wish the Hon. the Prime Minister could see his way, merely as a matter of fairness, to distribute this tax or a proportion of it among all the local bodies and municipalities. After all, he has to be constantly distributing money to such bodies. Therefore, why not use this tax in a fair way and distribute it evenly among the various local bodies and municipalities? That will satisfy those people who will be collecting the tax and at the same time such a distribution could take the place of the grants and favours which he might otherwise be giving to them from other public revenues.

"Now, I will not go into the details of the Bill. In fact, I recollect, Sir, you cautioned me on that point on the last Bill when I rose to speak. I notice that there is a provision in the Bill for allowing the municipalities and district boards to become the agents for the collection of this particular form of tax. Well, the experience that most people have gained in connexion with the working of this particular type of taxation by the municipalities which have already levied it does not give one much confidence in their capacity as collecting agents and I suggest that it would be undesirable to allow the local bodies to be the collecting agents. I would much prefer to see the Revenue authorities as the agents of Government in connexion with this collection, as it is obvious that there should not be the least possible evasion.

"The only other point I have to make in connexion with this Bill—and it is perhaps rather a curious one—refers to the question of the Government's powers in connexion with the Bill. As you know, Sir, we are usually rather jealous of granting Government too wide powers in connexion with the working of any Act.

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In connexion with the working of this Act, I should be only too glad to invest the Government with the fullest possible powers in one particular connexion and that brings me to the crux of the question. Now, my only point, except the question of the turnover tax which, so far as I am aware, has not been brought up in connexion with the entertainment tax, is that this tax will stifle the higher forms of entertainment which may be run for educational or other laudable reasons and which cannot possibly pay, but which nevertheless charge for admission. This will stifle the laudable activities of some societies—and their number are in the increase in the Presidency—which deal with the higher forms of entertainment. These societies are formed for offering very high class entertainment and for the improvement, culturally, of the people, particularly the middle class people of this country who were hitherto not having the benefit of such entertainments. It would be a pity, I think, if you attempt to impose this tax on such bodies; and it would be a pity if, by your attempts in this direction, their activities should be stifled or stopped. I hope that the Government will be prepared to use wisely the right to grant exemption from this taxation and exclude from the scope of this measure all entertainments of a highly cultural or educational character with a view to permitting such laudable activities to continue.

" Let us take one particular instance and I hope I shall not be insulting anybody in this House by referring to that alone. There is to my mind one particular form of entertainment—and I am afraid one only, in my opinion—in which India not only holds her own but is rapidly having the most salutary cultural effect upon the whole world, namely, Indian dancing. Probably most people know that the recent dancing tour of Uday Shankar all over the world has had a most marked effect, as I am fully aware myself, on culture in connexion with dancing all over the world. Now, I think it would be most deplorable if this particular movement in India which is spreading with a marked effect on that particular culture in other parts of the world, should be stifled in any way by an entertainment tax. I would be only too glad to see all higher forms of Indian dancing as distinct from other entertainments expressly excluded from the working of this Act. Take a very high class entertainment which is now going on in the City. I notice that yesterday the Pooviah Sisters gave a performance not only to a large audience but in the immediate presence of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works and the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. I feel sure that these gentlemen would not have patronized any ordinary form of entertainment. It must have been an entertainment of a most highly educational nature and I therefore feel that entertainments of that kind should be expressly exempted. I would go further and suggest that the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration who is well known

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as a patron of the arts may be entrusted with the portfolio of Fine Arts and commissioned by the Act to deal with questions of educational and cultural entertainments."

Sri D. Ramalinga Reddiyar rose from his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Here is a point of order."

SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR:—"We are not able to hear the speech of the hon. Gentleman, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What is the point of order? Is it that you are not able to hear?" (Laughter.)

SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR:—"I did not raise any point of order. I was only pointing out that the hon. Member who was speaking was not audible in this part of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Well, he is speaking very well and loud enough." (Renewed laughter.)

45 m. * MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"Since you issued very clear instructions at the beginning of this session, we have been very closely following them and on this present occasion also, I have been standing erect and speaking to the microphone from a distance of one foot six inches. So, the gentleman who raised the point of order need not worry himself. At the moment he raised his point of order, I was just on the point of sitting down and had nothing further to say."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is not the voice that has to be raised, but it is the phone that has to be raised." (Laughter.)

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"That is a work of supererogation. As I have said, I have finished my remarks and I commend the Bill to the approval of the House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, with the introduction of this financial Bill—I am sure I am voicing the opinion of the people of this Presidency when I say this—this Government have broken the record of all other Governments in this Presidency for bringing forward financial legislation in the shortest possible time. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley said, I dare say there would be hardly any one who could object to the principle of the Bill, for it has to be recognized that this is one of the measures which are being adopted all over the world for increasing the resources of the State. At the same time I must say that this Government have always been advancing arguments to show that they have been adumbrating a policy of taxing the rich for the benefit of the poor. If really that is the principle that has guided them in bringing forward this financial measure, I fail to see why the Government in their schedule of rates have included rates of entertainments which are much lower than what are obtaining under the existing Act. In the original

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Bill that became an Act, even the rate of As. 2 was proposed to be taxed and later on that rate was excluded. And to-day if any entertainment tax is to be imposed, it must be imposed on rates more than As. 4. It may be argued that after all entertainments are luxuries and that if anyone goes to public entertainments, he does so voluntarily; and therefore it may be asked why one who is able to pay for the entertainment ticket should not also pay a portion thereof to the Government. I can understand their policy if they impose their tax on higher rates, and not on those which are less than As. 4. The 4-anna rate is the rate which is paid by the labourer and the poor agriculturist. The argument that could be advanced is: 'Why should a poor man who could not afford or who is not in affluent circumstances go to entertainments?' But the point is, these entertainments such as talkies are taken practically to the very doors of these poor people; and just as it used to be said that the existence of these toddy shops was a source of great temptation to the poor agriculturist or the labourer, these cinemas and other kinds of entertainments have become a great source of temptation to these poor people and they cannot avoid going, especially when they are located very near them. But as in the ease of rich people, these poor people go to entertainments, not as a matter of luxury, but as a matter of relaxation after a hard day's labour. It may be a luxury for the rich, but it is certainly not a luxury for the poor, who go to such entertainments by paying one anna or a little more. Mostly in villages, this one anna enclosure is full and why should the Government tax even that one anna enclosure?

"Here I would very much like the Hon. Minister to realize that as in the case of motor vehicles taxation, if this tax is going to be provincialized it will end in a loss of revenue to the local bodies. The amount of tax that the Madras Corporation is able to collect at present is very great and it is likely to collect more when these entertainments increase in number. But if the Government are going to provincialize this tax, certainly they will pay some compensation to the local bodies, but I would point out that the compensation they will pay will not be equal to the amount they will be able to collect from the municipality or the local body concerned. Therefore by provincializing this tax, the Government will certainly be inflicting a considerable loss on the local bodies. They will be taking away from the local bodies one very good source of revenue. And it is necessary for these local bodies to augment their sources of revenue. So, I would suggest to hon. Members who are going to consider this Bill in the Select Committee, to see that the Madras Corporation is excluded from the purview of this Bill.

"Now, the Government are going to impose a tax on entertainments and they have made certain exceptions; in those exceptions they have included entertainments the 'gross proceeds

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of which are devoted to philanthropic, religious or charitable purposes,' etc. I fail to see why they have not excluded sports and tournaments. These have become a matter of considerable importance to the physical education and physical culture of the people and they ought to be exempted from this taxation. I know what an amount of hardship there used to be for persons who conduct such tournaments. There used to be tournaments as the All-India Cricket tournament and other kinds of tournaments which are responsible for the collection of large amounts and which go directly to the encouragement of sports clubs and other institutions which supplement the educational activities of the Government. Therefore I do urge that the Government should exclude sports and other kinds of tournaments from the purview of this Bill; for I believe they come very directly under the educational programme of the Government. The Government here say 'the entire gross proceeds of the entertainment are devoted to philanthropic, religious or charitable purposes.' I do not know why the Government should say 'the entire gross proceeds.' It is wrong. Unless certain expenditure is excluded, these institutions cannot be exempted from the purview of this Bill. Therefore I submit that the words 'entire gross proceeds' should be amended.

"Now, those people who are responsible for the carrying on of these entertainments such as the cinemas, talkies and other kinds of shows, if they have to advertise by means of wall posters and other kinds of advertisements, have to pay a tax for such advertisements and a number of other taxes; and if we are going to levy this tax, certainly you will be killing the owners of these institutions. Of course the Government will come forward and say that the proprietors are not the persons who are paying these taxes, but it is the persons who go to such entertainments that pay them. I may say here that it is not possible for us to realize whether the entire tax is shifted on to the tax-payer.

"Again, Sir, I would like the Government to amend the definition of the word 'entertainments.' According to the definition given in the Bill now, it includes 'any exhibition, performance, amusement, game, sport or race to which persons are admitted for payment.' I would like the Select Committee to put the word 'public' before the words 'exhibition, performance, etc.', occurring in that definition. For, there are many clubs and many private bodies which do carry on entertainments in their clubs from time to time for the sake of their members. You have not made any provision for exempting entertainments that will be held in clubs themselves where the members thereof alone are admitted. They pay a monthly subscription and they will have entertainments for their own sake and nobody else will be admitted on payment. But these members themselves cannot

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be admitted, I am afraid, without payment of a tax for entertainments in these clubs, if the word 'public' is not inserted before the word 'exhibition' in the definition clause and thereby these entertainments which are conducted in clubs are excluded from the purview of the Bill. Private entertainments held in private houses will also come under the definition as it now stands if the word 'public' is not inserted before the word 'exhibition.' Sir, I do not think I need deal at length with this measure at this stage, for I am sure that in the Select Committee both the Government as well as the hon. Members on the Opposition will put their heads together and see that this Bill is liberalized and that exemptions are given in the case of sports clubs and other institutions which I have mentioned." 4 p.m

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by certain interests in the film industry to bring to the notice of the Government certain disadvantages that they would suffer from if the measure before us becomes an Act. I do not think that any one of us here will object to the principle of universalizing this tax. But it is only because the exemption limit is abolished that there is some trouble. I was told just now that even in England, a far richer country than ours, the six pence seats are exempted. I am open to correction if I am wrong. At any rate, as a first step in the universalization of this tax the Government could have avoided bringing the lower limits of two annas and four annas within the scope of the Bill. I am not now pleading the cause of the poor man, but I am only representing to the Government that the interests which have asked me to speak on their behalf feel that it would considerably affect their income. It is not worth while reaffirming what has been said by the hon. Member of the European group, Mr. Langley, with regard to the infant state of the cinema industry. It will probably suit the interests concerned and will be better for the Government also to allow the industry to grow and thrive so that they can make more money out of the industry by making the concerns charge higher rates for the higher classes. Besides in a matter like this there is no ground to vary the rates which exist at present. The same rates would continue to exist and there will be no point in raising the rates for the six annas and eight annas tickets. If the Government feel after a time that the revenue derived is inadequate they may amend this Act suitably. I submit there is no need at the present moment to bring in the lower classes and an exemption limit is certainly necessary. After all the revenue got from the two annas and four annas seats—three pies and six pies—will not be considerable. I think that this is a concession which the Government can easily give to public opinion.

"With regard to exemptions, my hon. Friend, the Muslim Member for Madras pleaded for the total exemptions for sports

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activities from the scope of the Bill. I shall not make such a big plea as that and ask the Government to forego the entire revenue from sports activities. But I think the Government might very well give them a 50 per cent rebate. It would perhaps satisfy the interests concerned if the Government show some such concession without totally foregoing all that is due to them.

There are certain other clauses in the Bill which will prove a hardship to the cinema owners particularly. There is a certain method of collection of the tax now adopted by the Madras Corporation and it can very well be followed by the Government though the stamp idea is very attractive indeed. If a deposit is furnished and returns are submitted once a week, I do not see why the Government should not continue to collect the tax on the present basis. This must certainly engage the attention of the members of the Select Committee. If these amendments are made to the Bill, particularly the amendment regarding the exemption limit, I think the Bill will not meet with any severe opposition."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I cannot agree with the previous speakers in saying that this tax ought to be imposed some time later and that this is not the opportune time. I am sure that all are agreed that amusements and entertainments are all luxuries and as such there is no excuse for saying that the poor man should be exempted or made to pay less. For a poor man it is not necessary to go and waste his money on amusements and the Government are justified in levying as much tax as possible; only they should not put the tax so high that the income from it will be reduced. Those of us who support the Government in their policy of Prohibition should help the Government in finding some money to make up the loss caused by Prohibition. Measures like this should be supported, but it will not be proper for us to support measures for the taxing of tobacco, because the poor producers will be affected. If the Government get as much money as possible from the entertainments tax and other sources, there may be lesser burden on the poor people in the shape of other taxes. I am sorry I cannot agree with the previous speakers. I support the Government in this measure."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Sir, I wish to say only a few words. I was glad that at least one hon. Member, if not two, on the Opposition benches supported the general principle of the Bill which is all that is relevant now. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: ' All of them. ') I am told by the leader of the Muslim group that all of them support the general principle. So, there is nothing really for me to say at this stage. I should ask Mr. Langley to give instructions to Mr. Walker with reference to the exemptions and the ' fair distribution ' that he

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pleaded for. I am sure the Committee which is large enough and includes representatives of all kinds of interests will take these matters into very careful consideration.

" Talking about the spectators at cricket and football matches, Janab Abdul Hameed Khan suggested that the great crowds around those matches got physical exercise by looking on at those matches. At least he seemed to suggest some such thing. I rather think that these huge crowds do not benefit very much by way of physical health by this long waiting and looking on at other people sweating for them. Perhaps he thinks that I have missed his point. I have not. He suggests that the proceeds of the payment made by these large congregations for their attendance will go to finance those central clubs which run these matches and thereby India will be benefited in physical health. Even that I doubt very much. Whether the select teams either in football or hockey or cricket playing matches really benefit the general physical health of the people or not, I know there is a certain good produced out of them by way of the general lifting up of the idea of physical health, sports and so on. But more than that there is not much direct advantage. There is no harm in throwing a little brick at these people. In this East End of the world—after all we are in the east end of the world so to say—I think these strangers had better receive a little three-pie brick shield at them for the purpose of carrying on the administration. We do not intend mischief. We really intend to use the proceeds for good purposes.

" As regards local bodies suffering, I may say that after all the whole Provincial Government is run more or less to support the local bodies, to get them out of difficulties during bad times and if they have little money for institutions and services which they run, to give them grants to make up for what they do not have. Practically the Provincial Governments exist for the sake of the local bodies which exist again for the rate-payers. Universalizing and provincializing this tax and making it possible for the Government to distribute the money where deserving cases demand help is not a bad plan at all, instead of every local board getting as much as it can whenever cinema companies come and go.

" As regards exemptions for clubs and so on, I was wondering why those details were gone into at a time when the general principles of the Bill were considered. There is meaning in it. It is probably suggested that we should make loopholes for evading the tax. We are not inclined that way. The definition makes it quite clear that wherever there is payment, the entertainment comes under the Act. If entertainments, attendance to which is paid for by those who go there, are conducted either in

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clubs or in any other place, there does not seem to be much ground for exemption. The test is payment, not whether the entertainment is held in a club or somewhere else.

" Mr. Schamnad pleaded that tobacco is better than cinemas. I am not convinced so absolutely about it. In the Select Committee we shall certainly examine the question whether there is any relative virtue in tobacco as against cinemas as is believed by Mr. Schamnad. At any rate when the Tobacco Bill comes up, the question will be examined. Just now it is not necessary to decide that issue. I do not know whether a man loses more by attending a cinema or by chewing tobacco; it is difficult to say. All the same I think both had better be taxed. That is my general feeling. (Laughter.)

" Janab Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib said that we were ' breaking records ' in the matter of financial measures. It may be so, Sir. I think we have broken many records in other directions and let this be one more.

" I hope that the Select Committee will thrash out the important questions that were referred to in the course of the discussion and make the Bill one which will be quite acceptable to the whole House so that it may be passed *nem con* when it comes back."

MR. SPEAKER ;—" The question is—

' *that the Madras Entertainments Tax Bill*, 1939, *be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members :—*

Sri Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai,

Mir Akram Ali Sahib Bahadur,

K. Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur,

A. K. Kader Kutti Sahib Bahadur,

Mr. G. E. Walker,

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur,

Sri T. S. Chokkalingam Pillai,

Srimathi G. Ammanna Raja,

Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman,

Sri G. Krishnamurti,

The Hon. Sri S. Ramanathan,

The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi, and

The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar (the Hon. Mover), with the instruction that a report may be made before the 27th March 1939.' "

The motion was put and carried.

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Premier will be the Chairman of the Select Committee."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I would suggest that the Minister for Public Information may be the Chairman. It is possible that I may be engaged in the House itself about that time. I would like to be free if possible. But if there is any embarrassment, I shall remain."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Looking over the names of the Members, it seems to me that 13 is a very inauspicious number. We have started with the disinclination of the Mover of the Bill to be the Chairman. That is the first inauspicious thing."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"We shall disprove these superstitions, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai will be the Chairman of the Select Committee."

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1939–40—*cont.*

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES, MINISTERS AND HEADQUARTERS STAFF—*cont.*

MR. SPEAKER:—"The discussion on Demand VIII will now be resumed.

"You must be very brief, Mr. Krishnamachari."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"I shall try to be brief, Sir.

"Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of three cut motions, two on specific issues and one on the general policy of the Government. I shall deal with the specific issues first, so that I might finish them before my time is up, and if I have time, I shall deal with the general policy.

"The first subject that I want to refer to is this—I do not see the Hon. Minister here, he was here some time back and I had also given him notice that I was going to take up this subject now with regard to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. It is in the portfolio of the Hon. Minister for Public Health. Last year, Sir, I think I was alone in this House to raise this issue, and I think I drew fire from the Hon. Minister. He was very emphatic and very virile. Unfortunately, he was ill-served by his subordinates, and his reply was not accurate. I am sorry to make this remark, Sir, when he is not here, but I cannot help it. He does not seem to have been posted up with the history of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, or with its working. And therefore, things are very much the same now as they were last year. In fact, we have passed through another year, during which time the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has come

more and more into prominence and into the limelight. The responsibility for the present state of affairs must be laid at the proper door, and the Hon. Minister cannot shirk his share of the responsibility. Sir, it may look a waste of time if I speak on this any further—Oh! the Minister is coming here; I shall continue,

" Sir, I propose dividing my attack on the Hindu Religious Endowments Board under five heads. The first thing I will take up is the important question of contributions. I said last year, Sir, how these contributions affected these temples rather adversely. What happens is: all of a sudden the Hindu Religious Endowments Board wakes up to find that a particular temple has not given its contribution for some time; and the law of limitation is the one thing that interferes, otherwise the Board will ask it to pay up its contribution from the very beginning of the Act, i.e., from 1923 and will demand all these years' contribution, irrespective of the capacity of the temple to pay the same. Sir, some assurance was given by the Hon. the Minister that this state of affairs would be set right; but I do not think the assurance has been given effect to. The whole idea is that there should be some principle with regard to these contributions. Members here know that it is $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in the case of the excepted temples and 3 per cent in the case of the non-excepted ones, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent going to the Temple Committees most of which are non-existent now, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent going to the Board; and the Board is taking up all the money and claiming the entire revenue as residuary legatees of defunct Temple Committees. I am told that there is an Act on the anvil. We were promised last year that there would be an Act within a short time; it is still coming and is probably being prepared. What I am asking is not the abolition of these contributions from such temples; it must be clearly understood that temples which cannot afford to pay these contributions should be brought under an exemption limit. No contribution should be levied from temples which have got an income of less than Rs. 1,000 a year. It should be done even if the present Act is to continue to be in force; but if a new Act is coming in the future, I think this must find a place there. It is stated that contributions for more than twelve years are in arrears . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Is it with regard to the administration of the Government that these remarks are made? The administration of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board is regulated by a separate Act and a mere suggestion that it might be repealed or revised is sufficient in this case. We cannot now go into the details of the administration of the Board under this cut motion."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I am going only into the policy of the Government; because the Government are really influencing the action of the Endowments Board."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I do not know; the Government may influence; but the Government are not responsible as such—they are not primarily responsible—for the administration of the Endowments Board. There is a separate statutory body for the administration."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I am quite prepared to take your ruling, Sir; I shall not question the actions of the Endowments Board through this cut motion; but there is a certain amount of responsibility on the part of the Hon. Minister to bring . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That suggestion is good. But you should not go into the details of the administration of the Board."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I may say that the Hon. *Minister has been speaking about the* administration of the Endowments Board elsewhere, and I think I can go into the actions of the Hon. Minister so far as the Board is concerned."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Not unless the Minister brings in a Bill to repeal or revise the Hindu Religious Endowments Act; the Board is a statutory body and with regard to its administration, I think the Minister has got only such control and such authority over it as is vested in him by the statute and no more."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Precisely; I am only dealing with the Minister's control over it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" But the hon. Member has gone into the details of administration which are not within the control of the Hon. Minister."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I take it, Sir, that the Minister has got power to control the Board, its offices . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" He cannot do so except to the extent provided for in the statute. He cannot control the offices entirely."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I do not want to make this a point of argument, but I say that the offices . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not a department entirely and wholly under the authority of the Hon. Minister."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. May I ask if this department, I mean this Board, is provincialized? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" That question may be put separately to the Minister himself.

" I think, Mr. Krishnamachari, the suggestion that it should be abolished or revised is quite sufficient now. The details of the administration of the endowments cannot be gone into under this cut motion."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" May I point out as to why it might be gone into? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Not to a very detailed extent."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" If you think that the principle is right, then I shall limit myself to the administration, and not go into details."

MR. SPEAKER :—" But I do not think that the question as to why a particular law should be repealed comes under this cut motion. It is intended to give an opportunity only for a criticism of the administration; and as such, it might be discussed."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" I most respectfully desire to point out that it cannot be said that the Legislature has nothing to do with the Religious Endowments Board."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Legislature has everything to do with it; you can bring in a Bill to repeal or revise the Endowments Act; but under this cut motion, we are referring to a particular Demand and so we should not take up much time over details of the administration."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" If it is a question of revising or amending the Act, then that is an omission on the part of the Hon. Minister to take the necessary action; and this failure on the part of the Hon. Minister I think I can take up.

" Sir, the next question is one of notification of temples. That is being done by an Act of this Legislature—that is the predecessor of this Legislature—passed in 1935. I understood that the previous Ministry when they were in power, wanted this process of notifications to be accelerated. Just at the time when the Congress Ministry came into power, those were the instructions, I understand, that were given to the President of the Endowments Board. What happened was: after a time the present Ministry also came to the same opinion . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Acts of commission and omission of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board do not come within the purview of criticism under this cut motion. I think the hon. Member must not continue . . ."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" I am sorry, Sir; I am merely criticizing the Minister."

MR. SPEAKER :—" You may be criticizing the Minister to your heart's content; but criticism of the acts of commission and omission of the Endowments Board does not come within the purview of this cut motion."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" I think acts of commission and omission of the Hon. Minister in regard to the Endowments Board may be allowed to come in."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—" But you are getting into details; the commissions and omissions of the Commissioners are not the commissions and omissions of the Hon. Minister."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" In so far as the Hon. Minister has not checked them . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I do not think the Minister has got much power to control the detailed administration of the Endowments Board."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" He has got some power, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The statute as such gives him only a very limited power."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" This matter was discussed last year, Sir, and I thought you won't disallow it. That is why I have tabled this cut motion."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Unless and until the statute is revised or repealed, I take it that the Hon. Minister cannot control the detailed administration of the Endowments Board."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I bow to your ruling, Sir; I shall not speak any more about it. I shall confine my remarks to the Hon. Minister's part; but I am afraid it will get rather restricted in scope and besides will look as if it were a personal attack though it is not so really. I am not blaming the Minister at all, because I said ' errors of omission ' and not of commission. This matter has been very much in the limelight. The last report submitted by the Board shows that it is not functioning adequately. The report says that out of 23,000 and odd temples . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I think you are again getting into the details of administration of the Endowments Board."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I think I must now give up the game." (Laughter.)

* Mr. SPEAKER:—" With regard to this Endowments Board, my distinct opinion is that the powers of the Hon. Minister are limited by statute, and only to that extent, he has any responsibility. It is not entirely within his administration, and the Hon. Minister, whoever he may be and whatever may be his faults otherwise, cannot be made responsible for the faults of administration by the Board itself. He has got only such control as is vested in him by statute and no more."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" While I have absolutely no idea of questioning your ruling, Sir, I may say that I would feel happier if I am allowed to show how the Hon. Minister could have taken action on what is contained in the report. Anyway, Sir, if you do not want a discussion on that matter, I shall drop it.

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" I shall next go to the question of the stores purchase policy of the Government. The Hon. the Minister, I find, is very happy." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" But I think he feels that his powers are publicly declared to be limited."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" In so far as such power can be privately exercised, I think he must be feeling happy.

" Sir, as regards the stores purchase policy of the Government—rather they have no policy at all; nor that I blame them for it, because it is a legacy handed over to them by the previous Government—there are three departments vitally interested in purchasing stores. One, I think, is the Stationery department in charge of the Hon. Minister for Public Information; another is, I think, the Medical department which purchases stores—it sometimes purchases through the agency of the Military Medical Stores, although I do not think all the time, it uses that agency only; then there is the Public Works department which not only purchases stores for the general Public Works department, but also for the Electricity department. On a previous occasion, I touched upon the question of contingency expenses of this Government, which amounted to, I was told, Rs. 1·40 lakhs. Similarly in this case of stores purchase, I am asking the Government as to what check they have over this. After all, this question of purchase of stores in any business concern is given to one individual. There is only one assistant or one department which is in charge of purchases. It is a specialist department and there is a certain amount of specialization there; it does not matter whether stores purchased vary from a pin to an elephant; the technique adopted in the case of purchase of articles though of different types is not very much different. I am urging the Government to centralize this department. I am not asking them to appoint a new Secretary; I am not also suggesting to the Hon. the Premier that he should spend more money on this idea; the existing staff may be re-aligned and placed in the hands of one Minister and an officer, a Deputy Secretary, or whatever he might be, of the Government.

" In this connexion, I may mention that I find there is an officer in the Stationery department—I suppose he is an expert in paper—who is being paid a fairly large amount of money by way of salary. I do not know if he is there under any contract or is protected by the Secretary of State, as being part of some superior service. Anyway it is a superstition—and I should probably have dealt with the question of superstition if I had been permitted to speak on the Hindu Religious Endowments Board—that an expert in paper should be in charge of this department; for having been accustomed to deal in paper myself, I am quite aware that it

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is not a matter which requires very great technical knowledge. As a matter of fact, when that officer goes on leave, a Deputy Collector acts for him and apparently he functions efficiently; so there is hardly any necessity for keeping a separate specialist officer for the Stationery department."

"My next point, Sir, is in regard to the general policy of the Government, and I am going to touch on one particular aspect and that is the Secretariat. I know that I am perhaps trespassing on what has been said before, but I would like to state what I feel in regard to certain appointments made and certain communities affected. Being a Brahman myself, I am unable to say anything either in defence of the community or against it, but I can tell the Opposition in the House that one of the charges made against this Government is that they have allowed this communal rotation to go on. I think this communal rotation is pernicious; and if it can be removed by any community sacrificing its rights—by the Brahman community foregoing their right to initial recruitment to Government service during the next few years—it is worthwhile scrapping it altogether and setting at rest all talk about communities and so on. I would like also to point out to some of the members on my side, that after all if officers of particular communities are in particular appointments, it is only because of certain adventitious circumstances—for instance, that they are the senior members of the service by efflux of time. Probably my hon. Friend, the Muslim Member for the City of Madras may know that out of the five District Collectors from the Provincial Service, four are Muslims; and in regard to District Superintendents of Police, out of the 25 officers, five of them belong to that community; and that is certainly out of all proportion to the claims of the community. It is however meaningless to talk about such things. I repeat, Sir, as a Brahman, this communal rotation should be scrapped; and for this to be achieved it is worthwhile for the Brahmans not to claim any appointments for the next ten years—I mean no initial recruitment for the next ten years—but there is no justification to do any injustice to the officers now in service.

"From that, I proceed to another aspect of the matter. It may perhaps look as if it has a racial bias; but it has not got any racial bias at all. Sir, the Congress which is now in power accepted office mainly with a view to strengthen their position in order to fight the British Government better. I ask, what has this Ministry done to capture power; did they give the chance to Indians to rule themselves at least after getting into power? It does credit to the Hon. the Leader of the House when he said the other day on the question of Indians *versus* Europeans that he was fed up with these racial questions. After all, now that you have an Indian Ministry, you must have Indian subordinates.

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I say that when appointments are made in the Secretariat, as far as possible it must be manned by Indians. I do not want that they should be Brahmans; if you can get non-Brahmans, by all means get them, because I see no distinction between a Brahman and non-Brahman so long as he is an Indian. I find that recently three appointments were made in the Secretariat but they were all given to European members of the Civil Service. I think there is no need for doing that, for Government are fully authorized to appoint anybody they like provided it was from the Indian Civil Service. I can assure the Hon. the Leader of the House that the Indian community will have appreciated Indians being appointed to key positions. After all, it should not be thought as if I am speaking in condemnatory terms about the European members of the Civil Service; of course they have served loyally, but they have no interest in this country; they are here for a time and as soon as they qualify for their pension they go away. You therefore want somebody to serve you who identify themselves with the interests of the country.

" Sir, I next proceed to the question of the conflict between the Secretary of State and the Local Government in the matter of retrenchment and in the matter of the reduction of the salaries. Speaking on the Forest Demand, I said that I would like to refer to this matter at some other time. Sir, at one time 15 officers of the Imperial Forest Service were sought to be retrenched, but I find that 12 are now there. I want to know what happened to the communication of the Local Government with the Secretary of State. There were talks of cut in salaries of Imperial services. Nothing has come out of it so far, except what we see from the newspapers about certain interpellations in Parliament and the replies thereto. I repeat, Sir, that the Hon. the Leader of the House should take us into his confidence and tell us at what stage the matter is; if need be we are prepared to support him by a resolution of the House.

" My next point is as regards corruption. I am aware that my hon. Friend the Minister for Law has found fault with me as exaggerating the position. I do not happen to come from the community that exaggerates and because I am not a politician, I have no interest in exaggeration. But I do say that corruption exists in one form or another. In certain other provinces an anti-corruption drive has been undertaken. It may be that circumstances in this Province are not probably so bad; but it must be admitted that there is certainly corruption in many departments. All the same, this canker must not be allowed to go on and there must be some sort of periodical check over corruption. I said the other day that there were instances of complaints against nine officers of the Police Department in the Tinnevelly district. At the instance of the District Magistrate, they were placed under suspension. What happened after that, we do not know. There must have been some

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big persons involved, otherwise it would not have been white-washed. At any rate that is the presumption and it is a very justifiable presumption. It is therefore worthwhile for the Government to institute an anti-corruption drive, for corruption has got to be checked periodically; because human nature being what it is, there is bound to be corruption.

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM.—"இந்த புமாண்டில் நான் எடுத்திருக்கிற 159-வது cut motion விஷயமாய் பேசுகிறேன். ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் ஏற்கெனவே நாமினேஷன் செய்து வந்தார்கள். அப்படி நாமினேஷன் செய்த காலத்திலே பொறுப்பில்லாதவர்களை நாமினேஷன் செய்து வந்தார்கள் அவ்வாறு செய்யக்கூடாது. எங்களுக்கு எலக்ஷன் முறை கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டோம். அதன்மேல் சர்க்கார் எலக்ஷன் முறை கொடுத்தார்கள். அது மிகவும் நல்ல காரியந்தான். இந்த எலக்ஷன் முறையில் இப்பொழுது பல தீமைகள் விளைகின்றன. ஷெட்யூல்ட் (Scheduled) வகுப்பினர் டெப்பாசிட்டு (deposit) கட்டமுடியாதென்று இரக்கமாய் டெப்பாசிட் வேண்டாமென்று விட்டுவிட்டார்கள். இது என்ன ஆகிறதென்றால் டெப்பாசிட் கட்டுகிறவர்களானால் தோற்றால் அவர்கள் திரும்பி வாங்கிக்கொள்வார்கள். நூறு ரூபாய் டெப்பாசிட் கட்டவேண்டாமென்று அனுகூலம் பண்ணினார்கள். ஆனால் அதிலிருந்து ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் வரையில் நஷ்டம் உண்டாக்குகிறார்கள். அறியாமையையும் வறுமையையும் குடிகொண்டிருக்கிற ஒரு சமூகத்தில் அப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் வெளிஜனங்கள் இப்பொழுது பணஞ்சம்பாதிக்கும் வழியை உண்டாக்கிக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். ஒருவன் ஒரு சர்க்கிளில் தேர்தலுக்கு நிற்கிறான். டெப்பாசிட் இல்லாததினால் நினைத்தவர்கள் எல்லாம் எலக்ஷனுக்கு நிற்பதாக அப்பிளிக்கேஷன் போடுகிறார்கள். அப்படிப்போட்ட பிறகு தேர்தலுக்கு உண்மையான அபேட்சகர் அவர்களைப் பார்த்து வாபீஸ் வாங்கும்படி கேட்டால் அதற்கு ரூபாய் நூறு, இருநூறு, முன்னூறு வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொடுத்து வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொண்டாலும் கடைசியில் இருக்கிறவர்கள் "ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் கொடு, வீடு வாங்கிக்கொடு, நிலம் வாங்கிக்கொடு", என்று கேட்கிறார்கள். இது அனுபவத்தில் நடந்திருக்கிறது. நான் சொல்லுவதில் எதுவும் தப்பில்லை. டெப்பாசிட் இல்லாததினால் இந்த விதமான அனர்த்தம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஷெட்யூல்ட் வகுப்பினர் ஜாதி இந்துக்களுக்கு அடிமையாயிருக்கிறதினால், அவர்களுடைய எஜமானர்கள் நாமினேஷனுக்கு அப்பிளிக்கேஷன் எழுதிப்போடச் சொல்லி அப்பிளிக்கேஷன் போடுகிறார்கள். அப்பிளிக்கேஷன் போட்டபிறகு அப்படி எழுதிப் போடச்சொன்னவர்கள் வியாபாரத்திற்கு வந்து விடுகிறார்கள். இது மாதிரி எத்தனைபேர்கள் வியாபாரம் பண்ணுகிறார்களென்று சொல்லிக்காட்டவேண்டாம்.

"கள்ளக்குறிச்சியில் ஜெனரல் எலக்ஷனுக்குப் பலர் நாமினேஷன் அப்பிளிக்கேஷன் போட்டிருந்தனர். அங்கு காங்கிரஸில் இருந்தவர் ஒருவர் பணஞ்சம்பாதிக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஆவல்கொண்டு ஒவ்வொரு சீட்டுக்கும் (seat) ஆதித்திராவிடர்களை நாமினேஷன் அப்பிளிக்கேஷன் போடும்படி செய்துவிட்டார். அப்படிச் செய்துவிட்ட பிறகு, ரொம்ப யோக்கியதையும் பொறுப்புமுடையவர்கள் வர முடியாமல் திணறிக்கொண்டிருக்கும் அந்தச் சமயத்தில் நானும் எனது நண்பர் குலசேகரதாஸர் அவர்களும் மேற்படியாரைப் பார்த்து "ஏன் ஐயா இப்படிச்செய்துவிட்டீர்கள்?" என்று கேட்டதற்கு "பணக்காரர்கள் பணங்கொடுக்கட்டுமே ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு உதவியாயிருக்குமே" என்று சொன்னார். பணத்தைவாங்கி அவர் எடுத்துக்கொண்டார், ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கொடுக்கவில்லை.

'சர்க்கார் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு டெப்பாசிட் வேண்டாமென்று ஏற்படுத்தியது இந்த மாதிரி அனர்த்தத்தை விளைவித்திருக்கிறது. ஆகையினால்

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [20th March 1939

மற்றவர்களுக்கு நூறு ரூபாய் (deposit) டிபாசிட் கட்டவேண்டுமென்றிருந்தால், தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் இருநூறு ரூபாய் கட்டவேண்டுமென்று வைக்கவேண்டும். ஷெடியூல்ட் (Scheduled) வகுப்பு ஸ்தானங்களுக்கு எலெக்ஷனுக்கு வந்து நிற்பவர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவுக் கெவ்வளவு டிப்பாசிட் ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறதோ அவ்வளவுக்கவ்வளவு தொந்திரவு இராது. இந்த விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் கருணைகூர்ந்து மற்றவர்களுக்கு என்ன டிப்பாசிட்டு வைத்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதற்குக் குறையாது வைக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.''

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, I have great regard for the Members sitting on the Treasury Bench opposite and I have no doubt that they are good and true men, but Sir, they are after all all human beings like others and are liable to err either consciously or unconsciously. I am sure they will realize now that they have got into power, that they should place themselves above all party considerations or communal considerations in all their Government activities. Sir, I have been observing, and it has been troubling me that some questions which have given rise to trouble all over the Province have not been tackled by them with tact and sufficient courage. I would refer only to the question of the hoisting of flags and the singing of Congress songs that is agitating the minds of the people who are living under the local bodies in the various parts of the Presidency. In regard to this question, I may say this Government which is autonomous here and which is functioning from the seat of the Government for the benefit of the whole Province, must lay down a definite policy for the guidance of the local bodies. Sir, we all know that Mahatmaji himself has declared that these questions should not be forced on the people where there is the slightest objection to these two things. He wants perfect unanimity. Therefore, on a matter like this about which we hear of everyday occurrences of friction taking place all over the Province and have been receiving telegrams and representations, I would request the Government to bestow considerable attention in order that such daily occurrences all over the Province may be avoided.

" Sir, I would like now to refer to the question of the proposed cut in the salaries of Government servants. By all means, let the Government reduce their expenditure as far as possible on the services. But, Sir, if they want to do it, they must do it for all time and according to the programme of the Congress itself; let them reduce the scales to the maximum of Rs. 500; but it must be for all time. They should not go on tinkering with the question like this; they should not keep the hard-worked Government servants who have entered service with high hopes, in a state of suspense; they must not be allowed to think that the sword of Democles is hanging over their heads by the Government saying now and then that the cuts would be temporary and that it would be a very moderate cut and so on. If at all, do away with the question at one stroke, but do not keep them in a state of suspense. That will create discontent among the services and it will always

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keep them in a state of dejection. I am afraid such half-hearted measures are not at all satisfactory. You must go on with a forward policy, because that would be better and it might set at rest the question for all time.

" Sir, I would also like to refer in this connexion to one or two remarks made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. He said yesterday that the communal rotation order is there. Nobody denies that it is there and that it has been continued by the 4-45 p.m. present Government also. It was very good for this Government that they continued the communal order.

" At the same time Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed said that there were intricacies and implications and complications. It would have been better if he had explained what those implications, intricacies and complications were. But I have to tell him that it is the complications and intricacies that we, Muslims, have been striving to remove.

" Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed also referred to the question of script in the teaching of Hindustani. The Government have been kind enough to permit the teaching of both scripts so that advantage could be taken of by the Muslim boys. But I may be permitted to say from the little experience I have of this that no satisfactory and proper arrangements have been made for the teaching of the language in the Urdu script for the benefit of the Muslim boys. The Government have a duty to find out whether satisfactory and proper arrangements have been made for the teaching of the language in the Urdu script to the Muslim boys.

" Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed said that the Government took advantage of the opposition to his Muslim Wakf Bill on the part of some members on this side of the House and turned it down. I must make it perfectly clear that no Muslim on this side of the House . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think this is more a criticism of Mr. Basheer Ahmed than the administration of the Government. I see that the hon. Member is making a categorical criticism of the speech of Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. I would advise him to restrict his observations to the administrative acts of the Government rather than enter into a detailed criticism of another hon. Member.

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I was referring to it because the Government themselves expressed their view with regard to this question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I would advise him to proceed with his criticism on the Government rather than discuss at length the speech of another hon. Member."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I do not want to pursue that point further. I submit that the Government may take into consideration the points I have placed before them."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I will not take much time and shall restrict my reply to the remarks made by the hon. Member about the Religious Endowments Board and give an answer to the charges that have been made against the Government. I feel relieved by the ruling given by the Chair whereby it is considered that the Government are not certainly responsible for the action of the Board; they are protected by the Act. But there are certain points in the policy of the Endowments Board in respect of which the Government give their sanction, and one of those is the levy of contributions. The rules clearly lay down the amount that could be demanded from a temple. If under the Act a demand is made, the Government have nothing to do with it in the matter. But I can inform the House that when a demand is considered to be too high or improper, or when the institution from which the demand is made is not in a position to pay, the Government always waived the demand and cancelled it altogether. As far as I know, I have always refused to sanction a demand when it is proved to our satisfaction that the temple is not in a position to pay. Such a case also occurred even recently. That really is the relationship between the Government and the Endowments Board on the question of the levy. With regard to the percentage, one and a half per cent is claimed by the Board and another equal amount by the Committee for their services. Where the Board exercises control without the intervention of the Committee, where they themselves take over the work of the Committee, they take credit for having done the work of the Committee and of the Board and take three per cent of the total contribution.

" As regards notification, the law lays it down that the matter should be enquired into by the Board and the Government . . ."

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" These are points which were not dealt with by me in the course of my speach. I think the Hon. Minister is placing me in an unfair position by dealing with it when I did not discuss it on the floor of the House."

MR. SPEAKER :—"If it is relevant, he can give it out by way of reply or a survey of the position. Although no reference was made to it by the hon. Member, the Hon. Minister may speak, provided it is not irrelevant."

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" But he has placed me in a singularly unfortunate position."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Minister is not specifically replying to the hon. Members that have spoken. He is at liberty to speak as he likes, subject to the restriction that he will not speak about details that have been ruled out."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am thankful to you, Mr. Speaker, for indicating to me the crease line beyond which I should not step. I shall not get into the details with regard to the questions raised by the Member.

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" As regards the policy of the Government with regard to the notification of the temples which was referred to by the hon. Member, I may say that the notification proceedings are guided by the Act. When once the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has declared or decided, after due enquiry, to notify a temple, the matter comes before the Government and the Government satisfy themselves whether the notification is necessary; and if they consider that the notification is necessary, it is permitted. That is the procedure adopted according to the Act. The Government, I may tell the hon. Member, neither control the notification nor have they at any time issued orders to the Endowments Board either to withhold a notification or to order a notification. It is not in the hands of the Government to guide the notification policy of the Endowments Board. It is primarily the Endowments Board that has got to do it, and when once it does it, the Government as the appellate authority give their sanction. The justification for a notification, the insistence on a notification, are all factors which have to be looked into by the Board; they entirely rest with the Board and not with the Government. These are the points which I wanted to elucidate.

" There is yet another question about which hon. Members are interested. The hon. Member referred to the stores purchase policy. The Medical Stores purchase policy of the Government is controlled by definite rules prescribed on the subject. The Medical Stores is a department controlled by the Government of India Defence Department and the Madras Government have no control over that department. It is a part of the Government of India Department. The rules lay down that the Local Government shall buy their stores from the Medical Stores. But as a purchaser, this Government have satisfied themselves that the price quoted and the quality of the stuff that is supplied to us are very satisfactory. Apart from it, we have taken care to see that all such medicines that could be locally manufactured in this country are being done by the Stores. We buy only such things as are not available in India from outside through the Medical Stores. The next thing is that in the matter of the prices quoted by the Stores, we satisfy ourselves that they are comparatively cheaper than elsewhere and therefore we are assured that we stand to gain by purchasing from the Medical Stores. Thirdly there is this advantage, that every stuff that is issued by the Stores is tested and guaranteed with regard to its purity, while in the market we are not assured of that protection and safeguard. Probably in some cases, it may be cheaper; but the thing is that the Government are assured by the Medical Stores of the purity which we are not certain of with regard to outside purchases. The prices are, as I have said already, comparatively cheaper; and with regard to the development of indigenous industries, we see that all those things as can be manufactured here are prepared in this country. I have myself visited the Stores and have myself personally seen

the various things that are manufactured in the Stores and I hav satisfied myself that the purchase through the Stores is not at al expensive or less advantageous under the terms under which w buy from them. The local bodies in this Province have ofte applied to this Government for permission to the purchase of thei medical requirements from outside. In supplying medicines to loca bodies, the Stores levy a surcharge of 20 per cent on the goods sup plied to them which makes purchase from them costly. We ar in correspondence with the Government of India that the surcharg on the supply of medicines to the local bodies should be remove and we are expecting a favourable reply. If the Government o India do not accept the suggestion, then it may be open to th local bodies to buy in the open market; but until we are sure tha the Government of India have given a definite refusal to the pro posals, we cannot permit the local bodies to buy as they please Even if we allow the local bodies to purchase in the open market we must have sufficient safeguards to see that quantity and qualit supplied is proper and the medicines are genuine. When this i assured, we shall certainly allow them to purchase in the ope market. This is the policy of the Government so far as purchas of medicines is concerned."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Hon. Members opposite wanted the polic of the Government to be stated with regard to the repeal of th Hindu Religious Endowments Act."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I thank you, Mr. Speaker for having drawn my attention to it.

" It is a fact that a Bill was prepared nearly a year ago The changes made in the Act have been such that it has necessiate its being referred to a number of bodies. The High Court and th Revenue Board had to be consulted with regard to the points raise in the new Bill. Hereditary rights, transfer of property, inams Privy Council decisions and a lot of other complicated things hav to be dealt with. Such a procedure is necessary because in th matter of this legislation, it is religion that is involved and it i advisable that it should not be rushed through without prope regard to the constitutional usages, habits and customs having th force of law, that have been in vogue for more than a hundre years. Therefore it is that we have been obliged to have consulta tions with the various bodies and it is only recently that we hav been in possession of the replies and the Government are consider ing the whole question. As soon as the consideration is over, w shall be in a position to circulate it to the Legal Department wh have also requested that they should be given time to go throug the various clauses of the Bill. I agree that enough time shoul be given to all interested in this legislation to go throug all the clauses and subject it to a critical examination. As soon a it is done, it will be published for public information and for th information of the House."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, the debate to-day has been rather on a higher level compared with the debate yesterday. I thought that the motion moved by Sir Pannir Selvam practically amounted to a thorough examination of whether the present Government commands the confidence and deserves the support of the Legislature or not. I crave leave, Sir, to be permitted therefore to go into somewhat of a defence of the general policies referred to by Sir Pannir Selvam, though it might look rather wrong to take up the time of the House in such a manner at this stage. After all, this is an occasion when the Ministry should explain why they are in office and why they claim the continued confidence of the House.

"The first point that was raised by Sir Pannir Selvam appeared to be an echo of a point that was raised by an eminent constitutionalist of our Province in a different place. He said that this Government are owing allegiance to an outside authority, and therefore they are not fulfilling the proper function of a Government under a democratic constitution, by which the Ministry should be responsible to the electorate and not to any outside authority. It looks a very strong and great point when put in that constitutional manner. But I would like hon. Members to examine the point a little more intimately. What does this come to? This objection appears to be, as I understand it, that the Government owe allegiance to the party to which they belong, and therefore, Sir Pannir Selvam does not like it. The objection is there—that the party system controls the Government—which does not seem to be quite the right sort of thing for the carrying on of the administration.

"Now I wish to ask whether this objection is sound. Every one has been urging that the party system should be developed in our country for the success of democratic institutions; every one has been urging that the party system is good, that it is not in ordered existence in India and that it is our duty to develop it. But so soon as we have begun to develop it to some extent, the instinct, somehow, of hon. Members opposite runs against it, and they say, 'This is controlled from outside, this is not real democracy.' I would like to maintain that it is not undemocratic for the Government to run the administration on policies laid down under a party system, which policies have been placed *en bloc* or in detail before the electorate and on which basis the electorate has returned them. Here, during the elections in our country, and immediately after the elections, I used to hear complaints from people, from gentlemen belonging to the persuasion of members on the Opposite benches, that we were carrying things through, by using Gandhiji's name. They were saying that hon. Members on this side were winning in the elections, not because of their intrinsic strength, but because they were putting up the label of Gandhiji

what the inconsistency is now in accepting orders from Gandhiji with regard to the carrying on of work. If the electorate returned us because we were staunch followers of Gandhiji, what is there wrong in fulfilling that promise? What is there wrong in proving ourselves true followers of Gandhiji, in proving ourselves true to Gandhiji's policies and principles? What is wrong in owing direct allegiance to a person who, Opposition members were urging on every occasion, was our strength and brought us votes from the electorate? I submit that this alleged allegiance—I do not admit it, let it be remembered—to an outside authority, which was more or less described as Gandhian, is not a wrong thing from the point of view of the electorate. The responsibility to the electorate and faithfulness to the principles to which we have sworn allegiance at the time of the elections are the same; the responsibility to the electorate is identical in this particular case with loyalty to principles known by the label of Gandhian policies. Therefore I have given this brief defence for the first attack. This Government's allegiance to the policies and programmes approved by Gandhiji is not counter to democracy, but is in fact the fulfilment of the pledges that were given to the electorate during the elections. I submit that this is an effective answer to this particular charge made against us.

" Sir Pannir Selvam purported to quote from the previous proceedings of the House. He said that when Janab Abdur Rahman Khan said that this Government were taking orders from an outside authority, I objected and said that it was improper to say that this Government took orders from an outside authority instead of from this House. And he said, that though I had answered that way, to-day a Colleague of mine was saying that he could not make a grant for a particular purpose to a school, because it ran counter to the principles and policies Gandhiji recommended to the nation. Therefore he charges us with inconsistency. I submit there is no inconsistency unless we ignore the essential difference between the right thing and the wrong thing. The difference between the right thing and the wrong thing is very, very little; but that is just the thing that makes one thing right and the other thing wrong. It is wrong for a Government, I say again, to take orders from an outside authority; but it is right to be true to the principles which we have placed before the electorate and on which we have come to office. It was therefore right for me to get up and object to the statement that the Government were taking orders from an outside authority; it was right for me to say that it was improper. It is also right for me to say that Government are following the principles and policies which were laid down for us by the party to which we belong and on which we got votes from the electorate. We are not doing anything wrong. On the other hand, we have been familiar with the complaints from the other side that we have been untrue to the policies of the Congress in this and that. It was a fine point for the Opposition to say that this is against

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Gandhiji's principles and policy and that this is against Congress policy. It suits the Opposition sometimes to appeal to the 'outside authority'; but sometimes it suits it to object to any 'outside authority' being referred to. I submit this is inconsistent. But the position I have put forward is perfectly consistent. We have to be true to the pledges we have given to the electorate, and it is possible that those pledges are identical with the policy and programme that come to us from what has been called 'the Congress High Command.' It is on the Congress ticket that we have been elected, and the electorate are entitled to tell us that we have not fulfilled the programmes or that we have not acted up to those principles and policies of the Congress. I shall not labour this point further. I think the whole thing must be obvious to any one who has understood the complexion of the present Government and the direct and indirect assumptions on which we have been returned to office.

"Sir Pannir Selvam's next charge was about our treatment of the Opposition: he stated that we have been acting tyrannically in respect of difference of political opinion. I repudiate this charge. Not only have we not been acting tyrannically, but we have been exhibiting an amount of patience which should be a wonder to the world. (Laughter from the Opposition benches.) It is not a matter for laughter. Hon. Members opposite have not seen reports of speeches that I have read, speeches made on public platforms; hon. Members have not read the rubbish that I have read in newspapers, scurrilous attacks in all languages. Hon. Members cannot appreciate, therefore, the patience that, I claim on behalf of the Government, has been exhibited by us. A standard of utterance that would be impossible for any Government to tolerate, a standard of scurrilousness, a standard of personal libel, a standard of references to the physical processes of physiological regeneration—has been adopted during recent times that would make hon. Members' hair stand on end if only I distributed such stuff to them. But these are not merely sent to me by post. These have been previously spoken, uttered in large assemblies and made the daily pabulum of thought and speech in many places. Yet we have been allowing these. Why? We are not here merely to carry a battle with our opponents. But we are here to attain certain large national objects. We can, by thinking only of these large objects, secure a certain amount of patience to stand all these things.

"A few people have been imprisoned, among whom are some prominent men also; references were made to them. It is possible to pick out a few individual cases and make it appear to the world that we have been imprisoning four hundred and five hundred Ramaswami Naickers and doing nothing else. It is not so. Mr. Ramaswami Naicker has been imprisoned, it is true; but why? The court has convicted him. I need not take the House through

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the justification of that conviction. The point that was made was that it was wrong to send him to Bellary. Sir Pannir Selvam does not know the Bellary jail. I know Bellary jail. (Laughter.) It is a good jail. I would invite any member of the Opposition to go to that jail. (Applause.) I know it from personal experience. I dare not keep Mr. Ramaswami Naicker in the Madras jail because of the chances here of stomach complaint. The particular complaint of Mr. Ramaswami Naicker was in connexion with the alimentary system. Therefore it is not right to keep him in the Madras Penitentiary. I would not have gone into all these details but for the challenge thrown by Sir Pannir Selvam. I claim to be a personal friend of Mr. Ramaswami Naicker, though a very bitter political opponent. I claim to know his constitution. He knows that I am, as far as I can be, kind and considerate to him. It would have been vulgar for me to refer to these matters had it not been made necessary by the direct attack made by Sir Pannir Selvam in regard to this matter. I end this episode by saying that I have not done any injustice to Mr. Ramaswami Naicker in sending him to the Bellary jail. If necessary, I would invite Sir Pannir Selvam to go and see Mr. Ramaswami Naicker in Bellary jail and take his own opinion. There can be no difference of opinion in that matter.

" Putting that aside, what is it we are discussing? Sir Pannir Selvam said that he was making a sporting offer and the sporting offer was, 'Give him any jail, any place that *he* mentions.' Is that a sporting offer? A sporting offer is an offer where you risk something, where you are prepared to lose something. This is not a sporting offer; it is a wrong use of the phrase. If Sir Pannir Selvam had made any offer in which he lost something or took any risk, I can undersatnd. Though I am not a great sportsman, I can understand the phrase; though it was referred to as a sporting offer, there was no sport at all in the particular offer that he made. Sir Pannir Selvam tried to make out that on a previous occasion when a question had been put, my Collegue the Hon. Mr. Ramanathan had made a promise that the prisoner would be released. No such promise was made, no such promise was intended; no such promise was understood by anybody at the time when the statement was made. Sir Pannir Selvam said, 'Here is Ramaswami Naicker who has been elected to preside over a particular federation or Conference. Will the Government release him, even temporarily on parole, so that he may be enabled to guide and preside?' The Hon. Mr. Ramanathan, who was somewhat taken aback by such a sudden proposal used the words 'the suggestion will be considered.' The suggestion has been considered. It has not been possible to make that concession. Nor did any one on the other side ask for such a concession. nor did any one even make such a proposal. They perhaps thought that if Mr. Ramanathan said, 'It will be considered,' there ended the matter. There was, however, another very good reason why they did not make such a proposal. If they had made such a proposal, any response would have carried with it

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conditions, which would have meant certain undertakings and certain obligations. They were not willing to undertake these obligations. But there is one other very simple fact, Sir, which the ordinary layman can understand. Mr. Ramaswami Naicker had been prosecuted before he was elected to the chairmanship of the Conference. Having previously been prosecuted, the members who chose to put him as the president of their Conference deliberately put a person who could not be available to them unless release was negotiated for. I want to use the very phrase, 'Is this sportsmanship?' Is this sportsmanship to elect a man who has been already prosecuted and to complain that he has not been released for fulfilling the functions of the election? I submit that this is not sportsmanship, far from being a sporting offer.

"Reference were made to certain other prisoners. I made elaborate answers, at least I made an elaborate answer in respect of one of them, in the case of prisoner who died in the General Hospital in January last. The point attempted to be made was that we did not show sympathy in the manner in which we answered. May I ask, Sir, whether it is just for persons responsible for putting a sick man like him in prison, to make this criticism. The persons who are responsible for putting a sick man like him into prison try to make out that the Government are wrong in not giving a different answer when a question was put. The man was convicted on the 5th December. Within a fortnight he had to go to the Jail hospital and he had to be sent within another fortnight to the General Hospital. I have already given details of the case. The Surgeon-General, the Superintendent of the hospital, in fact everybody, has reported about it.

"Now, when the party on this side of the House was responsible for sending people to prison, whose activities are now being copied, I may be permitted to say that the first thing that we were doing when sending people to prison was carefully to see that the men were in good health. When we were selecting men for volunteers, we were careful to see that they were not likely to become sick persons, likely to give trouble to the jailers, and that they were not likely to become a burden upon the Government to whose charge we had to make them over. Of course there are some men who are taken by Government but who afterwards become sick. But there is no meaning in selecting a person if he is sick or likely to become so. In non-violent civil disobedience, the deliberately chosen person must be one who is physically fit to be a prisoner. On the other hand, my complaint is that in this caricature of *satyagraha*, every care is taken to select people who are not in good health, who are likely to be a burden and who are likely to become a source of trouble to those who are in charge and to their reputation. I submit that this is not fair. This is not sportsmanship. This is not the way to win a battle, to win even in an agitation of this kind. If we desire to win by tactics of this kind, we have to

follow certain definite principles. Even though the object may be wrong, the methods must be absolutely correct. Here people want to send persons to prison only to embarrass the Government, and not to win over the Government by suffering. We ought not in the first instance select sick people. In the second instance we ought not to complain when people are imprisoned; we ought not to complain even when they die in prison. May I remind hon. Members on the other side of many a case of this nature which occurred during the period which is furnishing them copy now? But it is embarrassing to me, even to refer to these cases; because many of us ourselves were personally involved in them. I will use only general language. There have been cases when a prisoner had only seven days more to be released from prison, and within that week, either his daughter became a widow or his wife died and his children were left orphans; we did not ask to be released and we were not released; we did not get an advance even by seven days of our release in order that we may see our children, or in order that we may see and console our families. That is the way to win, whatever the object, if we should give non-violent opposition to the Government. But the present procedure is a mere caricature and it is merely used for the purpose of raising points of debate. And while we regret on the one hand the loss of life, we regret on the other hand the sickness and our inability to save some lives, though we do our best for all, and are able to save some other lives."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" On a point of order, may I ask, Sir, whether . . ."

HON. MEMBERS:—" Phone, phone."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" On a point of information, Sir."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, the hon. Member got up by saying that it was a point of order and I yielded. But he wants now to say something on a point of information. I leave it to you, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Is the hon. Member communicating information to the Hon. the Premier? "

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" I am asking a question, Sir, about the correctness of the statement which has now been made by the Hon. Premier."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You have a *question?* Then finish it."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" The question is, whether it is not a fact that Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru was released during his captivity to perform the obsequies of his father and also when his wife was sick."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I do not think that I need go into all that. It is up to the Government to estimate the people with whom they are fighting. I do not think that

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Jawaharlal Nehru was so released, but he might well have been released if it was necessary. But that does not matter. It has no bearing on the case in point.

"I claim that the cases of death that were referred to by Sir Pannir Selvam were cases in which the Government did everything that they could possibly do for the prisoners and the Government placed their best officers, and their best hospitals at the disposal of these prisoners, but the prisoners unfortunately died; that was not due to any lack of attention or any lack of sympathy on the part of the Government.

"Then it was said that information was not sent to the parents and so on. Hon. Members in making that allegation forget the answer which I gave with reference to one of the prisoners. The father was all along with the son who died in the one case; and in the case of the other, information was sent as soon as information could be sent. Therefore, there was no case of information not having been sent. It is easy to make such allegations, because they are dramatic, because there is no chance for examination of details, because passions run high and calm examination becomes most difficult when allegations of this kind are made. But I have a clear conscience on behalf of the Government when I say that the Government have not been cruel, have not been unmindful of the elementary duties of humanity in regard to this matter.

"But the main charge was that our action was directed against mere opposition of political opinion or policy, that it was unnecessary and that it was wrong for the Government to follow this kind of treatment of people who differed from them in political opinion. I claim again that this Government have not treated political opinion as such with any repression whatsoever They have not treated any opposition to their policy with any repression. But when this opposition has developed into activity of a particular kind, which has become plain and simple rousing of communal hatred and making national progress and ordered Government impossible, the Government have been forced to follow this policy. Hon. Members opposite are aware of the freedom with which speeches have been made, freedom with which articles have been written and letters have been published and allegations have been made in newspapers. That is political opinion, expression of political opinion. But the persons who have been imprisoned are persons who have rendered themselves offensive and who have tried to create intolerable nuisance in front of educational institutions or in front of private houses. It is only for these reasons or for the aiding, organization and abetment of this kind of activity that people are in prison. No political opinion has been penalized as such, as Sir Pannir Selvam must be aware. He has spoken on this matter, his friends have spoken on this matter at great length

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of any distinction made between man and man, but it is because a clear distinction has been made between a nuisance and a mere expression of political opinion or opposition to the Government.

" It was suggested that we have acted with gross partiality in the treatment of persons who have committed crimes. Particular reference was made to a case in Ettaiyapuram, the birth-place of the well-known Tamil poet, Subrahmanya Bharati. This anti-Hindustani agitation was taken over there. My defence in answering the question was, as hon. Members may remember, that it was wrong for persons to carry the agitation to a particular quarter where that agitation is likely to evoke disorder, provoke opposition to such an extent that disorder would of certainty result. Now, I deprecate it not only in that one case but I deprecate it in all such cases, whoever may be the party that is in strength. Hon. Members may remember that the other day a question was put by some one to which I gave an answer, where it was a Congress procession that was prohibited from going through a certain street in Tuticorin. I gave the same defence, namely, that the Congress procession was prohibited because it would be provocative. It would be wrong for that procession to be taken to a quarter where there were members of the opposite persuasion in large numbers and where provocation would result in disorder. The incident took place long ago before Sir Pannir Selvam took this point. These matters of law and order have been attempted to be looked at by this Government in all conscience, I may say, most carefully and most justly. Hon. Members opposite are not aware of the number of requests that go into my waste paper basket, where there is the slightest suspicion that the grant of such requests would involve partiality to our party. It would have been vulgar, to make reference to these matters, had it not been for the direct challenge made by Sir Pannir Selvam in this matter. Hon. Members do not know the difficulties of administration under the present circumstances. No doubt some hon. Members opposite have occupied the Treasury Bench before. I do not doubt it. But, Sir, they had not a party as we have, behind them. They did not have numerous members spread all over the country, who had every one of them as representatives of the electorate requests to make and claims to put forward—very often, just requests and very often right claims—the grant of which would still give room to the nation to think that we have acted like partisans. Hon. Members opposite had also requests to satisfy, and difficulties to overcome. I do not deny that. But I claim that we are in a peculiarly difficult position because we represent a very, very large party, spread all over the Province in all ranks of life. I wish, without self-praise, that this Province should always have a party to operate as justly as this Government have been trying to do. (Sir A. T. Pannir Selvam: Oh! Oh!) I wish that our Province will always have men who will remember their conscience as we have been trying to remember. I wish this Province will always have a Government which belongs

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to a party which works under a 'High Command' which is as jealous of safeguarding the honour and the prestige and the character of our party as the present 'Congress High Command' is. (Cheers from Ministerialist benches.) And, instead of thanking the outside authority for keeping and maintaining the purity of political parties, in spite of ever so many temptations and difficulties, hon. Members have been complaining about our receiving orders from the 'High Command' and about our receiving orders from outside. I submit, Sir, that this Province will be lucky as long as it continues to be governed by a party which will have the ideals and the high principles that this party at present has, and I claim once again in defence and not merely as a matter of self-adulation, that we have been acting as justly as a party Government can possibly act. I do not think, Sir, that we have anything to be sorry for and anything to confess to, in any detail that might be examined.

"It was stated that we have done many things in disregard of public opinion. Of course, the reference was to the taxation measures that are proposed, and to my reply that we have to get them through in spite of strong opposition. Mr. Hameed Khan said and so did Mr. Schamnad—though Mr. Hameed Khan was using one style of expression and Mr. Schamnad was using another style of expression—that our taxation measures are not very popular. I should like to know which taxation measures are popular in any part of the world. I admit at once that our taxation measures are not popular. But, we have to govern, and Government is not possible unless we have revenue. So, members opposite should be thankful that there is a Government which takes up the responsibility of putting forward unpopular taxation measures, the benefits of which members opposite might inherit one day, without having to put forward taxation measures through the House. If, for instance, we somehow get through the taxation measures which we have now before us and they are put on the statute-book, we have done a service to the Opposition. We have gone through the fire and the Opposition will benefit by it when they take over the Government of the country. So, they ought to be grateful for our making unpopular measures. What is called 'public opinion' is the opinion of the vast majority of the people in the country. Mr. Hameed Khan was saying that we have disregarded public opinion. That is not a correct statement, I venture to submit. If we disregard public opinion in that way, we shall no longer be in office. It is impossible. But, what probably Mr. Hameed Khan meant was: 'Even though you have the majority of the people on your side, you should not disregard the opinion of a substantial number of people who go counter to that public opinion; a substantial minority which differs from the majority should also be respected.' Yes. We shall respect it. But we cannot carry out

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the wishes of that substantial minority as against the wishes of the large majority. While we must respect opinion coming from a substantial minority, democracy will be at an end if we disregard the majority to carry out the wishes of a minority. The word 'public opinion' is somewhat loosely used in various contexts and that is the cause of this confusion. It is automatic and inherent in a democratic form of government such as we are under, though for the limited purpose for which we are functioning, that we should lose our place as soon as we disregard public opinion in the true sense of the term; and therefore nobody need be anxious about that matter. All that I submit therefore by way of answer to this comment is that it is an exaggeration of the opinion of a few people, a few articulate people into the opinion of the vast majority of the people of this country.

"It was stated that we have gone wrong in local administration and that we are curtailing the powers of the local bodies,— Mr. Krishna Rao said it, and I think Mr. Hameed Khan also said it,—and that this was against all principles of democracy. It is a very delicate point for us to decide, how far representative government, so to say, shall be carried on, whether the central Government which is also democratically formed and constituted, should control the operations in a particular matter in a particular place, or the particular inhabitants of that locality should alone decide the matter. It is a delicate matter and it depends very much on the nature of the subject, on the occasion when the question arises, and also on the magnitude, quantitatively, of the matter that is involved; and it is only in regard to the solution of such delicate questions that the conflict arises between the central Government which is democratically formed and the local body which is also democratically formed. There are varying opinions and schools of thought in respect of this matter. There are also conditions and circumstances to be taken into account. Therefore, I submit that it is not fair to say that the curtailment of the powers of municipalities or of local bodies, which involves the transference of that power to the legislature and to the executive formed by the legislature at the centre, is always undemocratic. We cannot swear by catchwords like that and apply these catchwords to all circumstances. It may be possible to take a different view in regard to a particular matter. It may be possible to say that in such and such thing and in such and such a matter, we shall leave things to the local body and that in such and such a matter we must either dissolve the local body or leave it to that body to decide and not interfere with its decisions. Another view may be taken that it is not right to dissolve a particular local body and ask it to reconstitute itself. But we must have the right to interfere in any particular decision and give instructions to a local body. These views may be taken under different circumstances by different

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people in different ways, but I submit that this Government have not committed anything wrong such as to deserve the condemnation of the House with regard to local administration. After all it should be remembered that local bodies are there in all sorts of varieties. There are panchayat boards, there are small municipalities, there are large municipalities, and there are also district boards—some of them good, some of them bad and some of them indifferent. And, it is not an easy thing to lay down one flat policy to govern all these matters. This Government have been trying to do their best in regard to them and I do hope that we shall soon have an ordered House, so to speak, in regard to local administration. I may well describe it as a Herculean task to clear up these things. These local administration Augean stables are not easily cleaned. It is a difficult thing now, and much more time is necessary for even the best and most able Government; even Mr. Gopala Reddi will find it very difficult to do this in a short space of time. I can only claim on his behalf that he is trying to do his best in regard to this matter.

" Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan in that connexion referred to flags and pictures, portraits and things like that. I am greatly in sympathy with him. I may say at the outset that it is possible—it has often happened—that a very well-intentioned thing has resulted in very undesirable consequences. We have been trying our best in this matter to prevent undesirable consequences and to caution and advise local bodies in regard to this matter. There are certain rights which we have to recognize. It is true that newspapers, for instance, can be conducted well or ill. Newspapers may be conducted for very good purposes and at the same time they can become mere dust-bins of scurrility. We cannot take away the right of publishing newspapers. Similarly, the right to put up a particular decoration for its own school or its own building, the right to have a particular flag, is there vested in a local body. It is a right which we cannot take away from a local body. It helps national consciousness. It helps the growth of civic consciousness and civic freedom. At the same time, I quite admit that it may be overdone and that sometimes it may lead to difficulties; and we have lost no time—let me tell hon. Members again something in praise of myself, let me tell hon. Members that I lost no time—in sensing the danger in this matter and in warning them. We have had definite advice circulated to all the local bodies in regard to this matter. But, of course, it is difficult to convince people against their own previous convictions especially when there is a huge difference between one view and another. It becomes all the more difficult to change the opinion of people from one to another, when there is only a small difference. It is easier to persuade them when there are large differences. Hence, this difficulty arises. But I may assure

hon. Members that nobody is more concerned and more anxiou than we to avoid conflicts and undesirahle consequences over thes flags and over these portraits and the like. The gentlemen whos portraits are placed in these buildings do not want the portrait to be there. They do not gain anything by these portraits bein there. It is only because we thought the people would gain an that there will be a national consciousness growing towards free dom and towards progress, that we wanted these pictures to b there. If it leads to the opposite consequence or if it leads t more conflict, we do not want these things to be there and we shal lose no time in avoiding such situations.

5-45 p.m. "The occasion was used to refer to certain details of adminis trative appointments. The Agent for Burma is a European, henc the objection; the Secretary to the Development Department i an Indian or rather he is a Brahman and hence the objectior The same Civil Service—the Indian Civil Service—contains number of Europeans, a number of Brahmans, a number of Non Brahmans and a number of Mussalmans. If, in that Civil Servic which has been statutorily utilized for furnishing servants to ru particular responsible functions, to carry particular responsibilitie one happens to be a European, we all unite to say, 'It is wron to put a European there; we must put an Indian.' Because h happens to be a Brahman, some other groups of people unit to say, 'Oh, that is a Brahman.' If he happens to be a Mussa man, nobody talks of it because the Opposition will not refer t it. This is very unfair. With due deference to Sir Pannir Selvai I say that we are overdoing these things. We will land ourselve in utter hopeless retrogression, if we go on in this manner. I is wrong to allow this communal talk to become the daily subje and daily pabulum in this House. There is nothing else referre to here by people except this question of communities. Is it goo for us? Yet, it is an original sin. It sticks. Let us get out o it. Let us try to reduce the virulence of this original sin. Let u try to make it less and less and not more and more. The Registra of Co-operative Societies now happens to be a Brahman; but ti recently he was not a Brahman. Did anybody pay a complimer to the Government then? When now it happens to be a Brahmar this is picked up as a matter for opposition. The Inspector-Genera of Registration is not a Brahman. Does anybody refer to it? Th Director of Industries to-day is not a Brahman. Does anybod refer to it? No. The Inspector-General of Prisons is not Brahman. Does anybody refer to it? No. The Inspector-Genera of Police is not a Brahman. Does anybody refer to it? No. Th Director of Public Instruction is not a Brahman. Nobody refe to it. And yet to say that all key positions are taken away b the Brahmans is unfair. I submit, Sir, that this is unhealthy an it is also not believed by hon. Members of the Opposition. If hon

Iembers do not believe, it is unfair. We are merely making a rievance for fomenters of communal trouble, to put their fingers pon. That is the mischief of it. It is very dangerous; it is not mere joke, it will lead us backwards and backwards till we can ever be fit for self-government. Is it possible that any Governient could do more for minorities, that any Government could do iore for communities, than what we have been doing? Let those ossibilities be examined and let them be put up and the Governient will be only too glad to satisfy those demands, without rejudice to national progress.

"Let me utter one caution more in this connexion. It has ecome rather too common for particular service cases to be taken p by Members of the House. A particular case is put in the shape f a general proposition and either an interpellation is put forward r a policy put forward or a debate is raised. This does not really elp the gentleman concerned. If members of the public service ave to depend upon the assistance of the Members of the Legisature in matters where they have a channel of appeal, where they ave a channel for representation and where they have a regular, rescribed course for putting forward their case, if hon. Members elp to make these things political, the particular gentleman will nly suffer and will not gain by this kind of interference.

"Let me say again in this connexion, much as you may do for communal representation and communal proportion and so on, it would be intolerably unfair to impose a communal rule upon promotion, a communal rule upon the transfers of people to particular selected positions, where efficiency is required, where ability is required. No civilized Government can be run on that basis. Is it possible for anybody to conceive of a state of things in which a junior who belongs to a particular community goes up over a senior by promotion, and in which, because a particular person belongs to a particular community, he should rot, though he has been efficient, though he has been honest, and though he has served loyally? It would be a most intolerable aud unjust position. That is why even before we came to office, it had been settled that this communal rule and communal proportion should govern only direct recruitments and the first appointments and should not touch promotions and selection posts. It is therefore wrong for people to make grievances of cases where a particular man is selected for a particular place or a particular man has not been successful in getting himself promoted over the heads of other people, simply because he belongs to a particular community. Therefore let us once for all understand that the communal rule or the communal proportion or whatever it may be cannot apply when once first recruitment is finished, and that it cannot be applied to promotions or to selection posts. Even there in order to speed up the proportion to be

reached, in order to make up the communal proportion, for instance where a particular cadre can be filled up by promotion from another cadre from below, it has been ordered that a certain number of posts should be reserved for direct recruitment so that some persons might be taken from minority communities. Even that has been provided for. All these rules have been laid down very carefully and elaborately and I may claim that the Public Service Commission and the Government are closely and rigorously following these rules; and it will be gross untruth to allege that any such rules have been disregarded or that any new qualifications have been added, as has been sought to be made out by Mr. Hameed Khan. I got up immediately and said that it was not correct, that it was untrue to allege that any of these rules have been disregarded or any of these rules have been got round and the hon. Member thereupon modified his statement.

"With regard to this subject, Sir, particularly with reference to Mussalmans let me clear the position. It is worth while clearing the position in regard to this matter, because I know that these grievances, however much they might be unfounded, however much they might be clearly answered and refuted, have a knack of being spread not only in this Province among ignorant people, but even outside the Province and it is easy for a wrong allegation to get across and it is very difficult for an explanation to overtake it with the same speed. That is why I propose to take some extra trouble in regard to this matter. Let me explain the position. Let us start with the fact that the Mussalman population is 6 to 7 per cent of the population of our Province. This 6 to 7 per cent of the population claims certain offices and claims that it should be represented in the services ultimately,—and I may say it is just to concede it at once,—up to the proportion of its population. But we must remember that it cannot be done straightaway. How is it possible, unless the educational progress is equally good? Now, the University figures for the last five years, show that out of a total of 3,500 young men who graduate every year—I have taken the average for the last five years—the number of Mussalmans ranges from 90 to 125, i.e., about 3 per cent. Whose fault is this? Can you get your population proportion in Government service at once, if your education does not keep up to this level? Is it fair to the nation that its services should be manned in the manner that we propose, unless the Mussalmans take the trouble of putting up their educational qualification ratio also? They have been trying to do it and I am only pleading for patience. It is wrong to allege that we have not done well. (Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur: 'Even in the 3 per cent there are unemployed.') You want the whole of the 3 per cent to be employed and the 97 per cent to be unemployed. Would it be fair? Would the young men themselves consider it as proper or just? I submit, not. Arithmetic should be properly understood, let me tell you. The 3 per

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cent education is the background which you must remember and then the population is 6 per cent. I give this merely, not in justification of anything not done, but I want this background to be remembered in judging what has been done. A definite communal rule has been adopted, but to certain technical services the communal rule is wholly inapplicable. Is it not just, because technical services cannot be fully and properly performed if we follow such rules as these? This Government since they came to office—let me remind hon. Members—have extended the communal rule and did not curtail it. We extended it to the cadre of District Munsifs in the Subordinate Judicial Service—a highly technical service. It is a dangerous service also. The men have to apply the law, and injustice may be done to parties. Since the number of District Munsifs is large, we extended the rule to District Munsifs. In regard to certain technical services, however, it would be impossible to extend the communal rule. In regard to other services, it would be intolerably unfair to promote junior men over the head of seniors merely on the ground of community. A proportion more than double the population ratio is allotted to the Mussalmans in the matter of direct recruitment in order to hasten the pace. More than double the population proportion is definitely followed by the Public Service Commission and by the Government. Let this be remembered in any talk on this subject or in any contributions on this subject to newspapers outside the Province. In direct recruitment, the Commission selects the candidates most suitable from *the particular communities*. On 20th February last, the Government issued a statement giving detailed figures and full information in regard to the sanctioned strength of the various departments and the number of Mussalmans therein. The same statement also showed the progress during the last 15 years in regard to the position of Mussalmans in the services. The number of Mussalmans in Government service in the Province as a whole, according to that statement of 20th February last, is 12,525 out of a sanctioned strength of 85,352. (A voice: 'How many peons are there?') Please wait. Don't think that I am so superficial as that. Take them bit by bit. You say that I take A *plus* B *plus* C; I wish you have patience; I am going to take A, B and C severally. I wish to say that if the posts of peons were available to all the communities in the measure in which it is available to Mussalmans, the other communities would be eternally grateful to this Government. Do not therefore look upon the peons and the smaller services as nothing and the big jobs as everything. Big jobs for a few do not help the people at large. (Laughter.) But small jobs for many do help the community at large. Let me say this clearly. You must know how to fight your own battle even. The number of Muslims, Sir, in the Government service in the Province as a whole is 12,525, out of a sanctioned strength of 85,352, showing a percentage of 14.7—

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more than twice the population percentage whereas as I said already the University statistics show 2·36 per cent graduation.
p.m. Now, Sir, before going to the details, let me at once tell the House that the Government have given not a few special concessions, besides setting up the communal rule, in order to help the recruitment of Mussalmans and Scheduled classes. For example, the normal age limit for the Madras Civil Service (Executive Branch) is 23, whereas for Mussalmans it is 25. In the Madras Engineering Subordinate Service, the normal age limit is 26 and for Mussalmans it is 28. This is not a small concession. Many a bright young man of 26 belonging to other communities would have to wait, because another who is a Mussalman who is 27 or 28 is taken in. If only hon. Members can enter into the skin of those young men who have come out with brilliant records from the University and professional colleges and are sent away because a man of a particular community who has passed the age limit and who is inferior perhaps in qualification, gets a particular job, they can understand the amount of injustice that has been done to those individuals. But, all the same, as a matter of public policy, the rule has been adopted as I have described it. For the Madras Ministerial Service and for the Madras Judicial Subordinate Service, the normal age limit is 25, but, for some time to come, that is until the end of 1940, the age limit for the Mussalmans is 27. Even in regard to the general educational qualifications, up to the end of 1940, Mussalman candidates and Scheduled class candidates are deemed qualified if they obtain 35 per cent in English and A Group language in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination, as against 40 per cent prescribed for other communities. There is a difference of 5 per cent. Many a candidate fails to reach 40 per cent and gets only 36 per cent or 37 per cent and is therefore ineligible, whereas if it is a Mussalman he is eligible. It is not a small matter if only hon. Members will remember how hard it was for them when they were in school to get a few marks. Then, Sir, a Scheduled class candidate who has passed his Intermediate or B.A. is exempt from paying the fees prescribed for application for selection for appointment.

" The point which I now turn to is a mere detail, but not so to Mr. Schamnad who is very particular about Malabar and South Kanara and who judges every question as to how far it satisfies the test which he applies to his own district. It is right that every Member should guard his constituency in that manner. Therefore I go out of my way to mention a few facts for him. He is an indefatigable representative of his constituency and he is entitled to this information. For the Madras Educational Subordinate Service, the age limit is 30; but if a Malabar Muslim is not available under 30, the age bar is altogether relaxed. The hon. Member should remember this when he next complains about the treatment

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of Muslims in Malabar. In respect of Muslims, even the L.T. requirement is not insisted on prior to the appointment as Deputy Inspector of Schools. If a Malabar Muslim holding that degree is not available when his turn comes, a non-degree-holder Muslim is appointed. Never mind the rules. Sir, let us look at the results. In Malabar and South Kanara the non-gazetted Muslim officers are 10 per cent of the total strength. They are in Malabar nearly 10 per cent and in South Kanara more than 10 per cent. In the local board services in Malabar the Muslims number 23 per cent and in South Kanara 10 per cent. Of course 10 per cent is less than 23 per cent, but 10 is larger than the Muslim population. (Mr. Mahmud Schamnad: 'They are one-third of the population.') Oh, yes, only in one district if it is separately taken; the hon. Member must remember that they get service in other districts also.

"Now, Sir, what are the results during our period of office? Two hundred and sixty-one Mussalmans have been selected by the Public Service Commission as against 168 during the previous 18 months before we took up office. Fifty-five Scheduled class candidates have been selected as against 25 during the 18 months before we took up office. Not a bad record surely, if you want to judge us by the number of Scheduled class candidates we have taken or the number of Muslim candidates that we have taken. Let us leave aside any achievement in this direction during the last 18 months. I take the net result as a whole because it is really important. The percentage of Muslims among the non-gazetted officers below Rs. 35 per month is more than 19 per cent. This is an answer to a question by Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan. Between Rs. 35 and Rs. 100 their percentage is nearly 8, well above the population ratio. What right has anybody to ask for more? Above Rs. 100 the percentage is well above 5; that is to say, nearly the population ratio, in spite of, I must again repeat, their educational backwardness. In spite of their educational backwardness, if posts above Rs. 100 are occupied by Muslims to the extent of 5 per cent which is nearly their population ratio, is it a very bad state of affairs, I would ask? And can we reach the population ratio without first driving the population through the schools and colleges? It is not possible. Then, Sir, the gazetted officers' percentage is 5·84 which is not much below the population ratio in spite of all the educational backwardness. Now, in spite of the overwhelming number of highly qualified candidates from other communities available, if the Muslim community has secured 5·84 per cent of all gazetted posts, can they still complain? Is it fair that they should exaggerate their grievances in this matter?

"Talking of these posts, hon. Members are aware that first class B.As. and Honours B.As. are required for certain posts in the Secretariat and so on. What is the percentage of graduates

I was talking of? Three per cent. If we take Honours people, the Muslim graduates do not even come to 2 per cent; if we take B.Scs., it is between 2 and 3; and Honours between 1 and 2; if we take B.Sc. Honours, nil; and ordinary pass 4 per cent. That is the position with regard to education. Therefore we should make a combined drive to attain educational qualifications and not merely make points against the Government with regard to proportions and numbers on every possible occasion.

" Now, take the Judicial posts. I now come to the A, B, C, which I promised. Under the Government of India Act, hon. Members should know that the Government cannot give any direction to the Chief Justice in regard to appointments within his jurisdiction. But the Government are responsible for certain judicial posts. *(Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur: 'Including munsifs.')* I am giving the figures presently. Take even the High Court Judges. There is one Muslim out of fourteen. I want hon. Members to remember the arithmetic of it. It comes to 7 per cent. Can you ask for more unless you wish to kill out all other communities? Then, Sir, we will take the District Judges. We will begin from the top instead of from the bottom. Of the 26 District Judges, four are Muslims: That means $15\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, much more than double the population ratio, in spite of the I.C.S. and every other difficulty. Then let us take the Presidency Small Causes Court and the City Civil Court. One out of four is a Muslim. That is 25 per cent. Then let us take the Provincial Judicial Service appointments, outside Madras city. Gazetted officers in this category among the Muslims come to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. I have carefully verified the figures and I vouch for their accuracy. Is it not wrong therefore for the Muslims to say that it is below their population ratio? There are 7 per cent Muslims among the non-gazetted officers above Rs. 35. I am not deceiving hon. Members by just giving favourable figures and getting away with the unfavourable figures. Non-gazetted officers above Rs. 35 in the Provincial service outside Madras from the Muslim community come to 7 per cent, and 25 per cent of the posts below Rs. 35 are occupied by Muslims again. It looks as if this is a Muslim Government that is ruling. (Laughter.) Out of 25 posts of District Judges, 11 have been listed for non-I.C.S. people. Six out of these are filled by promotion from the Provincial Judicial Service and the remaining 5 by direct recruitment from the Bar. These 5, *by convention*, let me remind hon. Members, though not *by rule*, are subjected to the communal ratio prevailing in this Province. In these circumstances, how can there be any complaint in regard to judicial appointments?

" But what about the Police, possibly Mr. Schamnad is thinking immediately. (Laughter.) Yes, I have the figures ready

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for the Police also. The total number of the Deputy Superintendents of Police is 45 and of this, eight are Muslims. This is equivalent to 18 per cent representation. Inspectors of Police number 242 in all and of these 19 are Muslims. That is 8 per cent Muslim representation which will be above the population ratio. Now I come to Sub-Inspectors of Police. People might imagine and my hon. Friend might imagine, 'Oh! You have given us Deputy Superintendents and Inspectors. Probably you are giving all the Sub-Inspectors' posts to other communities.' No, Sir. Among the 1,558 Sub-Inspectors of Police, there are 222 Muslims, equivalent to 14 per cent. Now about constables what is the position there? The total strength of the constabulary is 22,052 and of these 4,848 are Muslims, equivalent to 22 per cent. And if we take all ranks into account, the percentage of Muslim representation is 21. Among constables, they are 22 per cent, Sub-Inspectors 14 per cent, Inspectors 8 per cent, Deputy Superintendents 18 per cent. I have been speaking only of Muslim representation. Now let me finish off the Indian Christians also along with them. (Laughter.) There are three Deputy Superintendents from the Indian Christian community and this works at $6\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. Among the Inspectors also their percentage is $6\frac{2}{3}$ as there are 16 of them. Their number among the Sub-Inspectors is 141, making 9 per cent. In the ranks of constables there are 1,430 of them making $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total strength. Have we done wrong by the minorities? The main, the most important minority communities are the Muslims and the Christians and their representation in the 'key services,' the Police and the Judiciary, is thus much larger than their population ratio."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir, may I know the percentage of Muslims in departments like the Fisheries, the Medical department and so on?"

*THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Oh, yes. The hon. Member will be patient, Sir. If we fill up the Police, if we fill up the Judiciary, if we fill up the Fisheries and every other profession with members of these minority communities, hon. Members must find a vast continent to put the rest of the population in. How is this possible? There is a limit to these demands. Sir, people were speaking of 'key posts' and 'key services.' I naturally took them at their word and I dealt with the Police and I dealt with the Judiciary. If this shunting off of the claim to Fisheries and to museums indicates that the position in regard to the Police and in regard to the Judiciary and the 'key posts' has been thoroughly cleared and that there is no longer going to be any question on that point, I shall be content.

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" We shall clear up the Fisheries and museums and all those things later on. Hon. Members should remember that they are beggarly departments How many constables are there in the Fisheries department, how many Sub-Inspectors and how many Deputy Superintendents of Police? They are petty little matters over which we need not bother. But let me say they are technical departments and it won't do if any man is put in there if he is unfit, simply because he is a Mussalman or a Christian. It is not easy to dispose of things like that.

" Then, Sir, there are some other departments still to be dealt with. 'What about the Secretariat which is under your very nose? Have you not done something wrong there?' Yes, I shall give you figures, with regard to the Secretariat headquarters establishment. We have done with the Judiciary, we have done with the High Court, we have done with the City Judicial Subordinate Service, and we have done with the mufassal Judicial Subordinate Service and we have done with the subordinates of the Police department. Let us take the Secretariat which may be considered to be the most important service, the key service so to say. Out of the total number of Superintendents in the Secretariat 6 per cent are Mussalmans. The posts of Superintendents are big jobs. Of the upper division clerks, 6½ per cent are Mussalmans to-day. Of the total lower division clerks, 22 per cent are Muslims to-day. What is there wrong in the Secretariat? So the ratio of Muslims in the Secretariat services works out thus; lower division clerks number 22 per cent, upper division clerks 6½ per cent and the Superintendents 6 per cent. The only other thing that does not probably satisfy the Muslims is that the Chief Secretary also is not a Muslim and that he should be a Muslim. A Muslim gentleman will also become the Chief Secretary if he is a civilian and if he waits until all his seniors retire.

" So the position can best be understood by the examination of the figures that I have given and not by concentrating on a particular post that a particular gentleman is in need of, on a particular occasion. Sir, that much I have said, because there seems to be a continuous obsession in the minds of hon. Members and so I had thought I had better clear up this matter even if I should take up some time of the House. So there could possibly be no complaint with regard to the position of Muslims or Indian Christians in the services. If that is so, I think I have dealt with most of the points that have been raised by the Members of the *Opposition*. Therefore I submit it is wrong for hon. Members opposite to imagine that we have not done fairly by the communal rule which we have accepted and which we have not disregarded but really in a large measure extended. I may also claim that with regard to the Scheduled Castes, in spite of the communal rule, there was much difficulty in finding suitable

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men. When their turn came, this Government have done their best by seeing to the protection of the particular turn of the particular backward community whenever their turn was in any manner jeopardized. I am not in a position, nor is it necessary, to go into all the details of this matter. We have done fairly and justly with regard to the minorities.

"On the general question, I think we can claim that our administration is such that we are entitled to the confidence of this House. This Demand that we are making includes a Demand for the Ministers' salaries; therefore it is very proper that our entire administration should be under examination under this Demand and I have done my best to defend it in regard to the points that have been raised by hon. Members of the Opposition. The main point with which they started was that we were trying to follow an all-India direction and that was objected to very strongly by the Members of the Opposition. I submit that India is one indivisible whole and it is indivisible either from the point of view of this Government or from the point of view of the British Government also. Do hon. Members not know that the discretion of the Governor which is guaranteed in the Government of India Act is not a Provincial discretion? Everything is protected by the Secretary of State from above. Everything has an all-India repercussion and everything is therefore examined from an all-India point of view. It is therefore right and natural that the position of the present Government also should have been examined in the same manner from an all-India point of view and it has become necessary to do so. And this is what was referred to when Mahatmaji was fasting, when a critical situation developed in respect of a particular matter and when hon. Members here, as in various other Provinces, feared that we were prepared to resign. One Member of the Government had given a statement that Provincial Governments may perhaps have to resign and objection was taken to that by Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan. I may tell hon. Members that this question of resignation is not a mere show. It is a question of the party functioning as a party. It is a question of a policy capable of being followed. It is not, therefore, merely a question of allegiance to an outsider. It is inherent in our policy that we have to act together.

"The hon. Member who spoke about this subject himself referred to the breaking of the constitution and he seems to be satisfied that we did not break it. Possibly he was trying to poke fun at us. He was very much satisfied that we could not break the constitution. But he was not right in thinking so. He will pardon me if I say that he does not know all the technique of breaking the constitution. He does not know when we are to

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break and when we are not to break. We claim that we have broken the constitution already. Do not hon. Members complain that we are autocratic; do not hon. Members complain that we are Hitlers, that we are totalitarian States and so on? What does that mean? Is it not a confession that possibly the constitution has been broken already? How could this Government have become dictatorial, how could this Government have become totalitarian unless the constitution has been broken? There are ways and means of breaking the constitution, and sometimes, just as we grow without knowing that we have grown and just as no man knows *when* he cast off his childhood or boyhood or *when* he cast off his middle age, in the same manner constitutions do not know when they have been broken, when they have grown and how they have changed. Let me assure Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan, though he may say that we have not broken the constitution, that we have not forgotten that objective. Our objective is that the constitution that has been forced on us should be broken and there are ways and ways of doing it, and ways differ with constitutions. And therefore we have not gone wrong in that matter either.

"I was only pleading that this Government have to act in the manner which may appear to hon. Members to be somewhat extra-Provincial. Sometimes it is necessary. Just as the various Governors act extra-Provincially, the various Ministers have to act extra-Provincially. It is necessary and to that extent we have to watch the politics of other Provinces. We have to watch the politics of all India to guide us. Reference was made to our possible resignation and a complaint was made about it and I am coming to that point. When we say we want to resign if any crisis develops, it is not for the fun of it that we say so. It is because it is not possible to function if the crisis is not solved correctly that we say so. It is not with a view to use it as a lever to give trouble to Members of the Opposition or to make them come and take their seats on these benches that we say that we are going to resign. It is because we feel that we cannot function as a Government if a particular situation is not solved in a proper manner, that we say that we will resign. That is the reason and that is the plea that we put forward for that position. It may be that sometimes a situation arises when it looks almost that we are going to resign and other people get themselves ready to take our places; but when we come back, we find that the whole thing is going on in the same old way and we get unpacked and other people have to go disappointed, and we are still in harness. (Laughter.) All that has happened. It is not intended that crisis of this sort should be developed for the fun of it, nor are these resignations tendered for the fun of it. Let hon. Members see what we are for. I make

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that appeal again. We claim that we are here only to fulfil the function of the progress of the country. In all earnestness I plead for the co-operation of all ranks and parties. It is not possible to have any democratic system in a representative manner unless all of us make sacrifices and unless we all put our shoulders to the wheel. Here, for instance, are these taxation measures and our difficulties. We want Prohibition; we want taxation to be reduced so far as it is a burden on the poor people. It is not possible to do so unless other people bear it. It is no use saying, 'You promised to reduce all taxes and now you are increasing.' I do not remember ever having told any group of people or any audience or in any meeting that we will reduce taxes all round. We never said so and we never could have said so. But we did say that the rural population would have less tax. That is what we are trying to do to-day. It is, therefore, necessary to understand exactly what we are driving at. If our country has to work a democratic form of Government, we have to pay taxes, we have to submit ourselves to a proper distribution of taxes and also we have to educate the people for a particular standard of expenditure commensurate with the taxation that they have to bear. It is not too much for me to claim that the Opposition should help us in these matters. Of course, it is easy to run with the current; it is easy to go and address a meeting where taxation measures are to be condemned. Let me remind hon. Members opposite that it is not easy to restore the drink tax. It is not so easy for the Opposition to take their seats on the Treasury bench if they oppose all taxes. It is easy enough to condemn and join the current and ask for the wiping off of the sales tax, the property tax, the entertainments tax and the petrol tax, and to say, 'We won't have any taxes whatsoever.' But it is not good for the country. We are taxing to do good to the people and if we are to get our taxes from the people, we must realize that we cannot impose the burden on the people unless we get the consent of the people. We must also realize that unless we get that consent and impose that burden we 6-30 p.m. cannot govern the country in a civilized manner. We must therefore be wary—both on the Opposition and on the side of the Government. On the side of the Government we have to obey public opinion. It is a greater duty on the side of the Opposition to educate public opinion. It is easier for them to educate public opinion and help the public cause in that manner, because it would be disinterested, because it would be taken for granted that if the Opposition also says that some tax is necessary, people will understand that the tax is necessary. Of course it is pleasanter to say, 'No, we oppose the Government, we oppose the tax.' But it will all come back like a boomerang. It will not be possible to maintain self-government, progressive self-government in India unless we educate the people on right

lines. We are not wanting in frankness and frank talk. We want the Opposition to be equally frank and equally straight in dealing with the people and not merely join with the current in opposing the Government."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"*I will put the cut motion to the vote of the House.*"

* The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—"Sir, before going to that, I should like to point out that there was a slight mistake, an unfortunate mistake in the reports of our proceedings the other day. It is an important but small detail about the Excise officials. What I said was that 18 Excise officials who had been discharged were still to be re-absorbed. Every paper seemed to put it as 80. The thing might alarm people. Hon. Members might take note of this. It is not 80, but 18."

The cut motion was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

* The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—"Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 6,21,100 *under Demand IX—Legislative Bodies.*'"

Mr. SPEAKER :—"Is Sir Pannir Selvam going to move the cut motion intended to discuss the policy?"

Rao Bahadur Sir A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—"Yes, Sir, I would only take five minutes or less than that.

"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 6,21,100 *for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"The object with which I gave notice of this motion was to suggest the advisability of circulating printed answers to starred questions as was the practice in the old Council. The advantage gained thereby would be this. We have just one hour every day for answering interpellations, and if instead of Ministers taking time in reading out statements and giving out their answers, all the answers are printed and circulated, there would be saving of time. Then the Ministers will not have to read out their answers. Hon. Members will find it easy to put their supplementary questions. Interpellations are meant not so much for an exchange of wit between the Treasury Bench and the other benches. They are meant for eliciting information for public benefit. If printed answers are given in time, hon. Members will be in possession of the facts and they will have time to think over the matter and elicit more information than is now

possible. Under these circumstances I think it is more desirable to restore the practice of the old Legislative Council when the answers were printed. It might be said that this practice does not obtain elsewhere, but it seems to me that it is not necessary for us to copy the practice of others in everything. If we think that a change from the practice obtaining in other places will be more advantageous to us we can alter the practice of this House. It is just to raise this point that I gave notice of this cut motion."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, the motion standing in my name is intended to discuss the need for a suitable enactment for determining the rights and privileges of the Members of the Legislature. There is another motion standing in the name of the Member for the South Indian Chamber of Commerce intended to discuss the need for the appointment of a committee of privileges. Last time the same issue was raised and the Hon. the Premier was pleased to say that he would not put a growing child into a tight jacket. That I think was the parable, if I am not wrong. I respectfully beg to point out that what he referred to therein was that he should allow the Legislature to develop its own conventions in course of time and not bring in any artificial or written code of privileges and rights. All that might be quite correct, but may I at the same time point out that we are working under a written constitution and there is nothing inherent by way of privileges or powers or rights of the Members of the Legislature or the House as a whole? Under the Government of India Act power is given to the Legislature to define and describe its own privileges, rights and obligations and that power it is that I want to be exercised by this House. Unless the privileges are assigned to us by means of legislation passed by this House we shall not be entitled to exercise any of those privileges which are exercised by Members who are similarly situated like us. Under a written constitution other things also have to be written out and definitely fixed. Unless an assignment of that kind by means of legislation takes place we are not entitled to enjoy any privileges. I may give instances. To-morrow there might be a very scurrilous attack against the Hon. the Speaker or against any Member of this House Under the present circumstances I feel that there is no power to take immediate action by way of asserting the privileges of the House. It may be that the Hon. the Speaker or the hon. Member has got a private civil remedy against the offender. But as a Member of the House, as a limb of the constitution of the country, there is no right and no remedy open even for the Hon. the Speaker of the Assembly. It is therefore paramount and urgent that the Hon. the Premier should take some steps with a view to assign the powers and privileges to be enjoyed by us. I may quote an example. To-day under the legacy of the old constitution, hon. Members of the House are

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attesting documents. That is a privilege given to them and they can exercise it if they choose. But in the absence of any definite assignment of the power to attest documents I doubt whether many of these attested documents could not be declared invalid. Therefore it is necessary that we should know where we are and what exactly are our privileges and rights as Members of the House. The Hon. the Premier is perhaps aware that two or three Provinces in India have already appointed committees for considering this question of privileges and making a report thereon. I want the Hon. the Premier to take a leaf from those Provinces if necessary and bring into existence a committee to consider this matter and suggest the necessary legislation. The other day, I vaguely remember that the Hon. the Speaker said that certain things had been decided and concluded at the Speaker's Conference with regard to the privileges of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I suppose the Speaker never said that he was referring to the conclusions of the Speakers' Conference."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am sorry, Sir, I stand corrected. I may be wrong in the expression. I thought the question of privileges was considered at the Conference of Speakers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, it was considered."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Probably I am not accurate in my expression, Mr. Speaker. The Hon. the Premier—I am speaking subject to correction—stated that this House or the Government were not bound by the decisions or the conclusions of the Speakers' Conference. But since then no progress has been made in that direction. We are to-day in a very nebulous condition."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Since the hon. Member referred to the Speakers' Conference, I should point out that it is a purely confidential deliberative body. I may add that the Speakers are considering a Bill with regard to these things apart from the Speakers' Conference."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is indeed very gratifying to know, Sir, that the Speakers are considering this matter and I hope that their efforts will fructify at an early date and they will be able to put into effect what they are thinking about. It is necessary that initiative should be taken by the respective Governments and we should urge upon this Government to take the initiative so far as we are concerned. The Government will get all the advantage that results from the consideration of this subject by the various Speakers. I think it is necessary that the matter should not be delayed. There are questions of arrest and questions of obligations of the Members

of the House; and the privileges that are to-day enjoyed by the Members of the House of Commons cannot be enjoyed by the Members of the Assembly unless and until those privileges are definitely assigned to us by means of legislation or if possible by means of the rule-making powers of this House. It is no answer to say that, when we are working under a written constitution, we should allow conventions to grow up. The conventions would go if they are inherent in the constitution itself, but in this constitution everything is fixed up and water-tight and nothing could be gained or lost. Therefore it is that I urge that the Hon. the Premier will be pleased to appoint a committee of competent persons to go into the whole matter and submit a report at an early date."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, my object in 6-45 p.m. giving notice of this cut motion was first of all to urge the necessity for seeking that some important amenities which are very much lacking in this House are given to the members. But in view of the fact that this Assembly is going to be housed in the Secretariat buildings in the Fort St. George very soon—although I am not quite sure when it will be—I do not want to speak much about it at the present moment. Nevertheless, I think that the first privilege of every member of a democratic assembly, in a place where deliberations and discussions have to take place with regard to matters of administration, is that he must have the opportunity or facility of being heard properly and correctly. We have no doubt got a number of mechanical appliances here, and our rights have been recognized in this respect since the inception of this Assembly; but in spite of our best efforts to adjust ourselves to our new surroundings—and most of us are really new to the art of public speaking—we find it very difficult to satisfy ourselves or to satisfy others who come here to listen to the proceedings of this Assembly. As a matter of fact, Sir, I raised this question of acoustics and the improvement of the acoustics of this Chamber some time ago; and you were pleased to say, Sir, that things would be remedied as far as possible. I see that improvements have been made with the best of intentions to remedy the present disadvantages; but I fear the remedies have been worse than the disease, because we are still having all sorts of difficulties in the shape of echoes or eccentric noises that arise out of the mechanical appliances and the other changes that have been made recently, and it is rather difficult to make ourselves intelligible in the best manner possible to the members of the House. The reporters also find it very difficult to report our speeches; because we get rather amusing reports sometimes. Only a few days back, in the course of my speech, I was referring to climatic conditions, and the reporters put it down as 'diplomatic conditions'; and when I talked about 'commercial utility' they put it down as 'commercial ingenuity.'

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Things of that kind are happening, not once but many times. These are the comedies of parliamentary life—at any rate, I take it as such.

" As regards other amenities, I do not think there are many here, about which one need say much, such as bath rooms, water closets, etc. With regard to the Library, I am afraid because it is underground, nobody thinks of it; perhaps it is a nice place for us to go and protect ourselves from an air-raid, if we have one on Madras! But if a member is tired after work here and wants a little relaxation, he can have none there; if he goes there and tries to study and draw some inspiration from the books in the Library, I am afraid he will get disappointed. But these are the things available here. I hope, Sir, in the new Assembly at Fort St. George, there will be a better place with the refined and spacious atmosphere of a real library for members to go and take some rest, with some good rooms and also with facilities for getting whatever information they may require.

" I must congratulate this Government on this good thing, i.e., in the right economy that has been effected in not incurring a large expenditure on any new and imposing structure to house the Legislature; I quite agree with the Government on the wisdom of not having spent some Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 lakhs in providing for a very costly House, fit for an autonomous Assembly to carry on its deliberations. As it is, Sir, though I feel that what the Government have done with regard to the Council Chamber in the Fort St. George is right, I doubt very much whether the Chamber, in spite of the money spent over it, will answer our purpose. Perhaps we might feel somewhat cramped up or very stuffy there in carrying on the proceedings of the House with 215 members and a good number of visitors congregating. It is however a matter which is left to you, Sir, and I suggest to the Hon. the Premier, to see that it is not in any way made inconvenient to the members.

" As regards the question of privileges of the members of this House, it is a very important matter; and every one of us who has been a member for these two years has been thinking of some definite legislation in this respect. I think, Sir, when the matter came up before this House on the last occasion, you said that there must be some uniformity in such legislation, that all the provinces were trying to arrive at some uniformity and that the matter was under consideration. I also think, Sir, you assured the members that a Bill would very soon be brought before this House. If that is the idea, I do not think there is any need for me to labour the point further, especially as my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed has already elaborately spoken on this matter. I will therefore content myself by saying that this is a very important matter for consultation with other provinces and that

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the Government will do well to bring in legislation so as to define the privileges and rights of members of the House as well as the rights and privileges of the House.

"Then, Sir, if I am permitted, under this cut motion, to speak about legislation, I shall say a word or two. There has been a feeling, Sir, that legislation has been rushed through by this Government. No doubt they have got many things on the anvil and they want legislation to be brought about quickly; they are pressed for time and they want to bring some money into their coffers as early as possible, and so they want to proceed with legislation quickly. That is quite right; and perhaps it is right for the Government to say that they have to find the ways and means to get finance. But at the same time, in the interests of the people—though we may say that public opinion is vague and indefinite—I must very much appeal to the Hon. the Premier to see that future legislation, whatever it might be, is brought in after sufficient time has been given to the Opposition members of this House at least, in order to enable them to go through the proposed legislation, to prepare themselves and to know all the facts connected with it. There is a feeling like that; as a matter of fact, there was such a feeling in regard to the Public Health Bill, and I pointed out to the Hon. the Premier at that time that if it was a question of going according to public opinion, the public should be given sufficient time to think over the matter and express their opinion; but the Hon. the Premier stated, 'We are public opinion.' Well, Sir, we all know *the Government are in a majority; it may be that a large majority* is behind you and you have got the support of public opinion in more than one province in this country. We are not strange to that situation. At the same time, it reminded me of what Napoleon said when he was asked about his ancestor; he said, 'I am the ancestor.' Such a kind of retort we did not expect from a popular Premier; but nevertheless, I should like to say that whenever legislation is brought before this House, it should be taken on its merits. People might have sent you here in large numbers as a successful political party; but I think every measure which comes up before this House must be treated on its own merits; the whole thing should be placed before the people of the country so that they may know the *pros and cons* of the intended legislation. That should be done, whatever popularity you might have as members of the Assembly elected by a large body of electors; and the electors, the people or the public should be given an opportunity to express their opinion. This is a procedure which would be in the best interests of the Government themselves; and I must say it is very necessary that the Government should consider this aspect of the question.

"With these few words, Sir, I support the cut-motion."

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* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, last year you were pleased to say that the rules of procedure were under preparation and they would be placed before us for our remarks . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We are developing the rules of procedure."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Without the rules, we find it very difficult to get on because the old rules have become out of date and they are not fit for present conditions. We were promised last year that we would very soon have a set of new rules, that they would be placed before the House for criticism and that then they would be finally passed. So far, no rules have been placed before us; I do not know whether draft rules at least are ready or not."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the rules had been placed before this House a year ago, they would have become antiquated by this time. They are progressing."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I say the rules were then under preparation, but they have not yet been placed before us. Last year, you were also pleased to say that a Bill of privileges was being prepared. I do not know at what stage it is now. That is all I want to say about this, as much has already been said about it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is full of difficulties; it is not an easy matter."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Another thing I would like to place before this House is this: we feel great difficulty in coming together—I mean members of this House—and consult with each other, for want of convenient quarters. I want that residential quarters should be provided for the members of the Assembly, so that they may be in touch with one another."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Parliamentary residences? "

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Yes, Sir, in a convenient place, with separate quarters for ladies also. (Laughter.) Our old Council Chamber is going to be refitted; and I think quarters for the members somewhere near the Fort St. George, somewhere on the foreshore, will be very convenient. They may not cost much to build, and I hope the Government will consider this question and see that soon after the new Chamber is completed . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Why after the completion of that Chamber? Side by side with it, this can be done."

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* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I say so because there is no budget allotment for it in the present Budget. I hope in the next Budget at least some provision will be made for this purpose.

" Again, Sir, in arranging these cut motions, I do not know what order is being followed."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think that is not a point that need be raised now; Mr. Schamnad may speak on all the cut motions, if he wants. He is at liberty to speak on the subject-matter of all the cut motions."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Some names are placed first and some names afterwards. I do not know whether the time of receipt of notice is taken into account or whether they are arranged in the alphabetical order of the names."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That question need not be raised; as I said, you can speak on all the points and exhaust them."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Then, about making non-official days available to members of this House, several non-official days intervened in the course of our sittings; but they were all misappropriated or taken away by Government for official work. We have not been given sufficient opportunities to bring forward non-official business. Very few days have been made available to us for transacting non-official work. I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Premier will be good enough to consider this. Of course last time he said, ' Hereafter, we will see that no non-official days are taken away and members are not deprived of non-official days.' But hereafter at least I hope non-official days will be made available to us for ventilating our views on the many subjects that we want to bring before this House.

' Lastly, there is one more point. We are now being supplied with printed notice of questions beforehand. That is waste of money; because, if we are supplied with copies of questions to be answered on the next day or two days later, it is quite enough. Now, all questions that are received are printed and circulated to members even months before the meeting. That is not at all made use of by the members. It is unnecessary waste of time and money. It is enough if questions that are coming up before the House are printed and circulated one or two days previously. If possible, the answers also may be printed and supplied an hour before the meeting begins. In the old Council it was the practice—although in the Central Assembly our present procedure is being followed—to print and circulate the answers also some half an hour before the meeting began."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I want to say a few words with your permission, Mr. Speaker. There are one or two things in regard to which I will make a few observations. As the Hon. the Speaker himself knows, our rules require to be modified at least in some places . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" In many places."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" According to the Speaker, in many places, and the sooner . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" And we are making modifications according to the procedure adopted by the House. We have already modified them to a certain extent."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" To the satisfaction of many? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes."

p.m. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Of course, Sir, the rules are being developed and evolved by the Chair to the satisfaction of many. But, at any rate there are some at least of the rules with regard to which hon. Members in this part of the House would like to suggest modification; and I am sure there is no other person in this House who is more anxious than the Hon. the Speaker himself to see that these rules are modified as soon as possible.

" Sir, the next point I wish to refer to is about the accommodation that is sought to be provided for this Legislature. I have tried to find out how far the building in the Fort St. George will help us to accommodate the Legislature with any amount of satisfaction. I am afraid that besides the accommodation there being hopelessly inadequate,—apart from the fact that it is not sufficient for a joint session of both the Houses—it is not free from other difficulties and inconveniences. I see some alterations are being now made to the existing building, but no attempt is being made either to extend the accommodation or to improve ventilation. The wall outside the Council Chamber between the building and the sea is certainly a great handicap and we who were members of the old Legislative Council know what it actually means."

MR. SPEAKER:—" So, you want the Fort wall to be razed? "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If the Hon. Speaker can succeed in doing that, nothing can be better. I was just saying, Sir, that the building will not be convenient. We know, Sir, that Madras is a very hot place—only for a few months in the year, we have the cold weather and throughout the rest of the year, the City will be very, very hot—and it will be impossible for us to carry on our legislative work in that building with a big House such as we are at present constituted. As

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it is, even in this place, we have several handicaps; but this building is so large and the ventilation is so good and the sea breeze that we get in the evenings is so fine that it is not difficult at all for us to sit between 3 and 8 p.m. If the Legislature should meet in the Fort from 3 to 8 p.m. on a hot day, I think the difficulties and inconveniences that might be experienced by hon. Members may well be imagined than stated. I know, of course, that there is economy behind the arrangements that are being made, but even those who are responsible for this economy will realize the difficulties. I find from the Budget that there are several provisions made for the construction of bungalows for officers and for other things of a very costly character. But it must be realized that for a House like this, there should be sufficient accommodation and sufficient ventilation. It is certainly a great necessity which cannot be gainsaid. I do not want that Government should spend lakhs and lakhs of rupees on the ornamentation of the building. It would be sufficient if a single building is put up on the foreshore of the Marina which will be well ventilated, so that it will meet the requirements of this House. It may contain sufficient accommodation for a joint session of both the Houses, with sufficient accommodation for visitors. After all, it may not cost more than five lakhs and it is not a fabulous amount for housing the Legislature.

" There are also many other difficulties attendant on housing the Legislature within the Fort. Those who have experience of the rigorous rules and control of the military authorities over the building and over the admission to the Fort, know exactly that the freedom which we enjoy at present in this building will be a matter of the past. The difficulties which the members will have to experience as well as the difficulties that will be experienced by the visitors will be indeed very great. We know, Sir, that times have changed. During the past, the freedom of members as well as visitors was greatly curtailed. I know even in urgent cases, it was very difficult for members even to get messages from friends and relations, except under difficult circumstances, so much so, it was not possible for members to have freedom of entry or to get any communication from outside. These are things over which the Madras Government have no control whatsoever. The Military authorities will have superior control and they will have all the control over that new building, even though the Hon. the Speaker and his department might have some control during the days of the meeting.

" Having regard to all these difficulties, inadequacy of the accommodation, bad ventilation, existence of the wall between the sea and the building and other difficulties as regards the curtailment of freedom of members and restriction as to admission of

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relations and visitors, I believe the Government will be well-advised to give up that place in the Fort and put up a separate building, however humble it may be, however less costly it may be, which would be quite satisfactory in respect of freedom for members of the House."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, on this Demand for money being provided for Legislative Bodies including provision for members to function here, I shall take the opportunity of placing before the House one important matter which concerns the possibilities of raising debates on the floor of this House and I want the Government to take the necessary steps in the matter to enable adjournment motions being moved, on the floor of this House. Sir, with regard to the Rules Committee, I do not want to go into it now. The Rules Committee for some reasons has not been able to go through its work and I therefore wish to point out on this occasion one important matter regarding the rules. According to the existing rules of the House, if an adjournment motion has to be moved, it has to be supported by 35 members of this House. Sir, it may be contended on behalf of the Government that if we work out arithmetically and compare the number that was in existence in the previous Council with the number that we have now for the present Assembly, it will be all right proportionately. But, my contention is, the responsibility of the Government to get at public opinion in matters of importance which are included in adjournment motions is a very serious one for the Government to discharge.

"Sir, we must take the House as it is constituted to-day in considering this matter. It may be that political parties had reverses at the last elections, but to ensure proper discussion on matters of vital importance and particularly in respect of urgent matters brought up by way of adjournment motions, I feel there should be proper provision. Sir, as you know the strength of the Opposition in this House is about 50 and even assuming that all the parties in the Opposition including the Independents are agreed on an adjournment motion, it will even then be very difficult to get 35 members to be present here. I could remember only one occasion during the last two years when it was possible for members of the Opposition to move a motion for adjournment and that was with regard to the Vizagapatam Water-Supply Scheme; and it was not possible to do so on any other occasion. I am not saying this with a view to embarrass the Government with regard to voting in this House as it is constituted at present. Sir, I contend that with regard to debate the Government need not be worried at all. For, if they think that the debate has been prolonged, they can apply for closure and if you are convinced that closure is necessary, the discussion will then stop. Even otherwise, after the debate is over and the motion is put to vote,

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they have the full majority to support the argument put forward by the Government. That being the case, I should say, the Government should have no difficulty in taking the earliest opportunity to come forward with a motion on the floor of this House for an amendment of the rules relating to adjournment motions and make the number more reasonable than the present number 35."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Suppose the Government take no objection to a motion; it is only if objection is taken that 35 members should stand up."

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad:—"Thank you for the guidance, Sir. But, it is not always possible to have discussion conducted on that basis. What I would suggest, considering the present constitution of the House where there are various parties and also independent members, is that they should have a right to move adjournment motions; and if anyone should object to the motion, then it should be necessary to have a reasonable minimum and not such a difficult number as 35. With regard to the actual number that should be fixed, I think if the Government consider my suggestion to be reasonable, and decide to come forward with a motion, then it will be time enough for the Hon. the Leader of the House to consult the other groups in this House and arrive at a reasonable number.

"I may assure him that my object in bringing forward this suggestion is to carry on parliamentary debate in this House in a successful manner. Now we find, Sir, that on many occasions which are worthy of adjournment motions it has not been possible to have it. It may be suggested that a short notice question may be put and if the answers are not satisfactory a half-an-hour may be had at the end. But I at once say that it is only a palliative and it will not be a successful alternative. It will not be possible to rise a definite matter by way of a resolution. When there is a grievance and when there is an immediate urgency, we may require that the grievance should be substantially mentioned in a definite resolution though it may not have the chance of being passed. For definiteness and more correct discussion in the Assembly, it would be better to have a resolution discussed rather than half-an-hour debate."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Supposing the half-an-hour debate is extended to one hour?"

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad:—"It would only help discussion and it would not solve the other difficulties I have mentioned. If you require a particular resolution to be discussed, it may not be possible for that to be done within a half-an-hour debate, or one hour or an hour-and-a-half debate. Even then it will not be possible to move a concrete

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resolution for the consideration of the House and that is why we want it to be discussed in the shape of an adjournment motion. Further, it is not all debates that take long hours. Unless the subject requires two hours, such time would not be taken up for its discussion. If the time of the House is being wasted by frivolous arguments and repetitions, you, Mr. Speaker, are there to order the discussion to proceed in a particular manner and the time limit can be imposed or the Government can move for closure when they think that the discussion is not useful. All those possibilities being there, I think that there is a distinct advantage in Hon. Ministers agreeing to the adjournment motion itself being taken up instead of a half-an-hour debate.

"I submit that it would in no way detract from the powers of the Government nor would their privileges be involved. It would not also inconvenience them. It is only to relieve other hon. Members from the inconvenience that they feel in bringing in subjects for discussion of the House that I am making this suggestion. Not only members of the House who are in the Opposition are interested in this; the people in the country are equally interested. As a matter of fact I expect a powerful Government like the present Government to welcome such opportunities of explaining their own view points through the proceedings of the House to the general public at large. They may have one view and the people opposite may have another view of the same thing. Such a discussion will enable the Government to come forward with an explanation as to their views which will convince not only members of this House but also the general public. I expect the Government to welcome the suggestion of mine and to take the necessary steps in the matter.

"With regard to the printing of questions and answers, I do not think that the Hon. the Premier is fully convinced of the need for it from the way in which he received the speeches so far made. I only wish to say that if strict parliamentary procedure is to be adhered to, the questions should be read out by the member putting it and the answers will be read out by the Hon. Minister in charge of the department. But the proposal made is a perfectly legitimate claim, for, it will be to the convenience not only of members of the House but also to the Press. If the answers are not ready half-an-hour before the House meets and placed on the table of the House as it used to be done in the old Legislative Council, there would be enough time for hon. Members to study the question and the answer so that they may be able to put supplementary questions. What happens is that when a question is answered and if it happens to have many clauses, members are not able to follow the answers. Except very few who occupy the front seats, the others who are sitting in distant corners are not able to hear the Hon. Minister's reply and you,

Sir, know that on several occasions, hon. Members have got up and represented to you that they have not been able to follow the answers. Such a thing would help proper supplementary questions being framed and indirectly it will also help the Government to reply to them properly. So far as the Members of Government are concerned, they have to send the answers in time to the Assembly Office to have it printed. It means no more difficulty to the Government unless the Government feel that they should not give an answer in advance to the members and thus help them to put supplementary questions and do not want to save the time of the House, which is at present taken up in reading the answers."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You may suggest that these answers may be translated in the recognized languages so that members who do not know English may also know the answers."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I am a fairly reasonable man and I will not suggest such an unreasonable thing on the floor of the House. I may tell you straightaway that it is perfectly unreasonable."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is perfectly legitimate."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Being legitimate is quite different from being reasonable. A legitimate request may all the same be unreasonable.

" Even now, Sir, many questions are answered in English and members are not claiming a translation of it. The same thing may continue hereafter also. In the case of certain questions the Hon. the Premier has been answering them in Tamil to the particular member who puts the question in that language. These are things which may be left to the particular circumstances of the case. If you, Mr. Speaker, have felt that a particular question requires to be translated to help the member concerned to follow the proceedings and put supplementary questions, you have directed the Hon. Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary to translate the question. Such being the hase, I am afraid that I have to suggest one language may be adopted for the present. It you feel that a certain question requires translation even beforehand or at the time the reply is given, it can be left to you. But generally, I would suggest the continuance of the old system according to which the answers were printed and placed on the table of the House half-an-hour or so before the House met. Subject to correction I believe that such a system obtains in the Bengal Legislative Assembly.

" I have only one point to touch upon and that is the Government's methods of bringing in legislation. I would only say that it would be a very nice thing, if the Government do not rush through legislation. They are certainly entitled to bring in legislation. But what I am urging is that the manner of referring

Bills to Select Committees and the instructions issued to them to report before a specified date, smacks of haste. I appeal to the *Government to be more considerate.* I am not saying this for the sake of the convenience of members of the House. I agree that the Government are entitled to ask us to sacrifice our personal conveniences when occasion demands it. However much members may be prepared to sacrifice their conveniences, members of the Legislature who serve on the Select Committee or take part in the discussions during the further stages of a Bill, may not find time to offer concrete suggestions after making a thorough study of the implications of the measure in all its aspects, if legislation is *rushed through. I would suggest that the Government* take this into consideration and see that legislation is not rushed through, especially taxation measures. In the case of such measures, usually they become operative from a specified date which is settled even at the time of their introduction; so that there will be a few months before it and this period can be utilized for helping members to put concrete suggestions both during the committee stage and further stages. I can quote so many instances when Government rushed through legislation. My object in *speaking to-night is only that I may persuade the* Government to be kind to members and to help them by giving them enough time to enable them to study the various issues involved and not to hurry legislation through."

*** V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR.**—" மேன்மைதங்கிய **Speaker** அவர்களே, இந்தச் சபையில் நானும் என்னைப்போன்ற இங்கிலீஷ் தெரியாதவர்கள் பலரும் இருக்கிறோம். எங்களுக்கு அஜெண்டா முதலிய முக்கியமான பேப்பர்களை தமிழில் அச்சடித்து கொடுத்தால், நாங்கள் அதைப்பார்த்து நன்றாய் முக்கியமான விஷயங்களைத்தெரிந்துகொண்டு போதுமான அளவு உதவி செய்யமுடியும். எங்களுக்கு வரக்கூடிய பேப்பர்களை இங்கிலீஷில் எழுதி அச்சடித்து இங்கிலீஷில் அனுப்பினால் அதைக் கிரஹித்துக்கொள்ள முடியாத நிலைமையில், தக்கது செய்ய ஹேதுவில்லாமலிருக்கிறது. இந்த மாதிரி இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறதை நிவர்த்தி செய்ய வேண்டிக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இந்த நிலைமையை உணர்ந்து பிரைமினிஸ்டர் (**Prime-Minister**) அவர்கள் எங்களுக்கு தமிழில் அச்சடித்து அனுப்புவதற்கான ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

SRI E. KANNAN.—" Mr. Speaker, my idea in speaking upon the Demand to-day is to request the Government to revise the rules relating to the rights of members to interpellate the Government. Some questions relating to the executive irregularities in a municipality, the presentation and drawing of false travelling allowance Bills by Members of District Educational Councils, and the appointment of High Court Judges were very rightly disallowed by the office under the existing rules. While the day before yesterday, the question relating to some strike in . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not the office; it is the Speaker that admits questions."

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SRI E. KANNAN:—" All that I want to say is that, inasmuch as the rules stand as they are, the rights and privileges of members are to some extent . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What are the rights and privileges of members with regard to questions? It is the admissibility of the question that is determined by the Chair."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" I have nothing to say against it, Sir. All that I want to appeal is that, in so far as these things are done according to the rules, they may be suitably amended so that members may discharge their duty as representatives of the people in a proper way."

MR. SPEAKER:—" They are discharging their duty in a proper way."

SRI E. KANNAN:—" I believe, Sir, that, so long as these rules are not altered, members feel that they are restricted in the exercise of their duties as representatives of the people and I appeal to the Government that it may be taken up very early."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Rules with regard to the admission of questions are being interpreted in the most liberal fashion. If you have strict rules, it will be to your disadvantage."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" As regards the printing of questions and answers, which is the first point that was raised by Sir Pannir Selvam, and which the Leader of the Opposition favoured very strongly, I submit that both sides of the question should be considered. Mr. Schamnad appeared to say something else but finally wound up by favouring it. The difficulty is that, as far as I am able to see at present, it would not help anybody. The printing work will be increased. There is no doubt about that. There will also be a certain amount of delay because the answers will have to be got ready not merely in time to be answered on the floor of the House, but some time before that for the whole thing to be set up in print and got ready for being distributed and placed on the table of the House. According to the proposal, the question is to be put by the member and the answer is to be prepared and circulated to members and supplementary questions are to be put. According to the present procedure, hon. Members may complain that they have not time enough to prepare supplementary questions. But according to the procedure proposed, when the prepared supplementary questions are put the Government have no time to prepare the answers to the supplementary questions. Both sides are at present even in the matter of question and reply to the original question. The question is put after deliberation and the answer is prepared after deliberation. But matters will not be even with both under the procedure suggested. But now they are even, for the members bring up only such relevant questions that spontaneously arise in their minds and the Government would also be able to answer

such questions. But if answers are prepared and issued in cold print to the members, with the combined intelligence, acumen, capacity and imagination and—if I may use such a word—combined conspiracy (laughter) of several members, supplementary questions will be got ready. And the Government will have to say " Notice " for such questions or they will have to give answers on the spot. I do not think that that would be the proper thing on the whole. After all we are expected not to give trouble to one another but to elicit information. If the supplementary information that is wanted is a natural and connected piece of information it will be put on the spot by the member concerned and it would be answered on the spot by the Minister concerned. 30 m. Therefore, on the whole it appears to me that the present practice is fairer than what is proposed on the other side. I have no doubt that this may receive fuller consideration when the rules are being taken up. I have only said what I have felt at once, so that members may consider this point also when they further discuss the matter.

" Then with regard to the second thing that was mentioned—about the privileges of members. Possibly, some members are thinking that privileges are distributed as soon as a Bill is got ready. Privilege, as I understand it in other Houses in the world, comes to this. Certain powers are given for punishing people who are guilty of contempt of privileges and the like. All those complicated matters will require to be put in the shape of a Bill, if we are a free Parliament. First we have not got the whole constitutional privilege. The constitution is so cramped, and it is yet so undeveloped, if I may say so, that it is premature in my opinion that the privileges of members should be shaped. I will allow the constitution to grow. I think it is best to allow the privileges of the members to grow."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" On a point of information, Sir. On this question of growth of rules, unless there is a germ there, it will not grow. I am told there is no germ absolutely inherent in this body."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The analogy is very interesting. I do think we are assuming that this is a germinating seed and not an ungerminating seed. (Laughter.) As soon as we discover that really it is not growing, we will not function at all. Possibly the hon. Member is referring to something else. What I mean is the constitution itself has to grow, and therefore, it is better to wait for a Bill on the privileges of the members."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" I mean these created bodies have absolutely no inherent power. That is how it is understood by all constitutional pandits."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I do not see any consequence. What is the consequence?"

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"In the House there is no germ at all."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Therefore?"

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Therefore, there is no 'privilege.'"

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"If I understand him, he seems to support me; he seems to say there is no gain in having a statute of privileges. I do not think I have understood him correctly; otherwise, he could not have made a contrary proposition."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I suppose the Hon. Prime Minister does not agree with the hon. Member."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I am not able to understand him."

MR. SPEAKER:—"A certain amount of understanding is required before we can come to an agreement."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"This is not my opinion, Sir. It is the opinion of all people who know that these created legislatures, such ours, have no inherent power."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think we can create power."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But there are no germs!"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Germs also can be created."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The hon. Member apparently is of opinion that under the present constitution, this House has no inherent powers, and therefore we are not likely to be able to achieve anything by way of growth; and, therefore, there is no use of waiting. It may be his view. But this Government are of opinion—and I think the British Government has been of the opinion and it has put this expressly on that basis—that there is room for growth in this constitution. Apart from our own ambitions, even the British Parliament which made this statute seems to say the same thing, though they mean a certain degree of growth and we mean a different degree of growth."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It all depends upon the determination and energy with which we build up our powers. The day of miracles is not yet over; we may still achieve many things."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"In building up written law with reference to privileges of members I think we should do well to wait for some time more.

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" With regard to the point relating to adjournment motions, Sir, I do not know where this argument will lead us. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition said that they were only a small number in the present House—and that was his sole reason—and therefore to ask for 35 as the minimum for raising an adjournment motion is an impossibility in practical performance; and therefore, it would be depriving the Opposition of this kind of opportunity altogether; and therefore, Government should reduce this number by a rule. I think it would be better, as you suggested, that we rely on the good sense of Government and the adjustability of Government in order that on a particular occasion an adjournment motion may not be choked up for want of the proper number. But to claim that because the Opposition has come in small numbers and that they are divided into so many groups and therefore they are very, very weak and therefore, weightage should be given in this way, and that adjournment motions should be raised even though a smaller number *of members stand up, is not right. For the acceptance of this* will lead us also to the acceptance of the position even with regard to a 'Resolution.' It may be contended that a resolution should be allowed or rejected, if a certain number of members of the Opposition adopted or rejected it. That is to say, we want a new mathematics to be applied in proportion to the weakness of the Opposition. (Laughter.) This I think is rather a *reductio ad absurdum*. I want therefore to say that in the particular and peculiar circumstances of an election or for any other situation . . ."

Kumararaja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad rose to speak.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" A debate?"

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" A debate was allowed recently."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" That is a bad precedent, I say."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" It was more or less a conversation carried on by the Hon. Prime Minister and another hon. Member. I won't do that. I only wish to say that the Hon. Premier may cause, if he is allowed to go on as he does—I mean, it will create—a very wrong impression on the public that the Opposition want to coerce Government to agree to even a 'Resolution' by pleading poverty of numbers in this House. I say it is not at all so. My point was to enable the Government to make a public statement of the action taken by them in respect of a particular matter and therefore they should not fight shy of reducing the number. That is my point. *There is no question of the 'Resolution' being accepted by the* Government; and there is no such thought at all on the part of the Opposition."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It was perfectly clear; but I do not grudge the Leader of the Opposition making it clearer still as far as he is concerned. Surely he was not asking immediately, all at once, that there should be a mathematical weightage on every point, because the Opposition is small in number. But I say the logical corollary of the claim that *he is putting is that the rule should be altered to* make the 35 lesser in accordance with the sum total of the weakness of the numbers. I admitted at the outset that it would be much better to depend on the goodness, courtesy and the wisdom of the Government in allowing a particular question to be raised and discussed even if 35 members do not stand. But as a matter of fact it would be a dangerous thing to say that because the House is as constituted to-day, we should reduce the number to 30; for, tomorrow it would be the same rule and the same principle that would be brought forward even if the House were constituted in a different manner. So we cannot alter the rule to suit a particular difficulty. We should only depend on mutual adjustability.

" In the rule in regard to half-an-hour debate, it was admitted that there was already a provision made in the rules themselves for discussion of urgent matters, even in the absence of 35 members.

" Mr. Kannan's point was that the rules should be altered in order to make questions on municipalities and district boards and things of that sort also admissible. But the hon. Member does not take into account one important matter. Interpellations are not intended merely to ventilate grievances but to elicit answers from the Government also. The Government cannot possibly answer on matters for which they are not responsible, and that is why the rule is made as it stands to-day. Therefore, it is not right that the Government should stand up and be expected to answer anything that happens anywhere either about municipalities or about local boards, which are responsible for their own administration and for which the Government are not directly responsible.

" With regard to rushing of legislation, it is an old complaint. I submit that . . ."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Old and new."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Old and chronic complaint. (Laughter.) I submit that it is a matter for the Government to consider, and they are pondering over the matter. But I may say that they have also shown a sense of adjustability and consideration even in their conduct so far. There are some matters which may well be rushed through without any harm to anybody. There are some other matters for which notice is required and given. But of course people may estimate

the period of notice differently. Some may think for a taxation measure two months is necessary; others may think two weeks would be quite sufficient; some others may think a week will be enough. Herein lies the danger point. Taxation measures are of various kinds. For instance, supposing, I give plenty of notice for a taxation measure on motor cars, immediately motor cars will be bought and stored so that the tax may not be paid, and there will be a terrible disturbance in trade in the world over. It will be seen that we have not been too rapid in regard to this transaction. Sometimes it may be quite an easy thing to give notice. Sometimes it will be wrong. Anyhow, Government have to take responsibility in fixing this matter and we promise we shall endeavour to be fair as far as possible. As I have already stated in the debate earlier we cannot afford to do things foolishly because it involves dangerous things.

" As regards the housing of the Legislature, I am afraid, we cannot fall into the trap, that is to say, we cannot now launch on any extravagant expenditure."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Extravagant? Building houses for officers? "

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Extravagant. Whether building houses for officers is extravagant or not is a different matter. We cannot launch on an extravagant expenditure; we cannot build houses for ourselves permanently, providing for comforts for members however necessary, or desirable it may be. We are in hard times, so far as the Government is concerned. I therefore crave for patience of the members of the House to get on with all the inconvenience in the old Chamber which is getting ready for sometime. Let us get into prosperous times; till then let us get through work there; let us pass through measures in that House; and there will be time and opportunity for launching big building programmes for providing convenience to members. We are used to this big palatial building, though its audibility may be defective. This House is airy. The whole City is wandering in the verandah and there is no question of a gallery, there is no question of the difficulty of anybody not hearing anything. Everybody is pleased. There are many conveniences here. Once we get used to a thing, somehow or other we get attached to it. We get attached to the comforts of a particular place and it looks very hard for us to part with the very surroundings of our place. We will get used to the other place also again and there will be no difficulty. There is a distinct advantage in the other House. Audibility will be perfect there. There will be no necessity for shouting. There will be no necessity for us to stand at a particular distance from the microphone and all that. We will be able to hear one another very much more clearly, the debate will be very much more easy and therefore, our conclusions will be very much more correct in the other

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House. (Laughter.) There are advantages as well as disadvantages. A certain amount of cramping is there. But even the British Parliament, I am told, is rather cramped in that manner. In fact, I am told on very good authority that if at a particular meeting all the Members of the House of Commons come together, there will be no room there at all and people will have to sit one upon another. That is the condition there. We will be very much better off from that point of view in the other House, in the Chamber that is getting ready. (Sri G. Krishna Rao: 'That is a cold country.) We have then the rightful claim to ask that the sittings should be only during fine weather and should not be forced through very hot months and so on.

" Then as regards ventilation and other things it is not in every place that you have a sea port just as we have. What can the Nagpur people say? Can they ask for sea breeze and all that? But we have got the sea so near that even a small window will bring in a great deal of air. As we are all aware there are advantages and there are disadvantages. I say it is a temporary thing; nothing is permanent in this world. (Interruption.) We will get on for some time there. It will require a lot of money in order to build a big house for ourselves. It is a very unremunerative job. There is no use complaining that we are building a house for this officer or that officer; the officer pays his rent for the house. We do not pay any rent for our House. Where we build houses for officers, they pay the full rent and it is a remunerative investment, whereas here it is not very remunerative except in the form of legislation that we produce at sittings. (Laughter.) Even for that there are so many difficulties.

" I am quite aware of the possible inconveniences in the other building. But it is an old House. It has its old associations. Reference was made, Sir, to the place being military in atmosphere. Let us get used to that military atmosphere. It is not a bad thing to be there. It is not right to he afraid at seeing a soldier. It is good to become familiar with soldiers, it is good to see that they are men like us and people like us. There is no inconvenience at all. It is better if we are there even from that point of view. Even from the point of view of Mr. Hameed Khan, I am inclined on the whole rather to persist in remaining there than to run away from there. I am sorry that I have taken so much time over this Demand. I do hope that the Demand will be granted."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" Once in a way, I will withdraw my cut motion, Sir."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to starred question No. 952 asked by Sri P. Buchappa Nayudu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 20th March, 1939, page 339 supra.]

*Statement showing the imports of paddy and rice into the various ports of the Province of **Madras** during December* 1938 *and January* 1939.

Quantity in tons.

	Burma.				Siam.				Indo-China.			
	December 1938.		January 1939.		December 1938.		January 1939.		December 1938.		January 1939.	
	Paddy.	Rice.	Paddy.	Rice.	Paddy.	Rice.	Paddy.	Rice.	Paddy.	Rice.	Paddy.	Rice.
Madras	2,261	12,193	5,701	14,189	..	77	..	62	..	..	345	..
Cuddalore	..	..	36	274	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuticorin	..	6,478	27	5,298	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Calicut	..	1,343	57	3,865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cochin	..	1	1,591	10,710	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Negapatam	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..
Tellicherry	..	138	..	144	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ponnani	..	241	..	437	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Badagara	..	52	35	368	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cannanore	..	..	..	494	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mangalore	..	117	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2,261	20,563	7,447	35,779	..	77	..	65	..	..	345	..

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 21st March, 1939

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Official advertisement in the Fort St. George Gazette *regarding auction of whisky in the light of section* 6 *of the Prohibition Act.*

*958 *Q.*—SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether his attention was drawn to an official advertisement of an auction of 8 cases of whisky appearing in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 20th December 1938, Part II, page 1435;

(*b*) whether the Government have obtained legal opinion as to whether this advertisement does or does not constitute an infringement of section 6 of the Prohibition Act; and

(*c*) if it does, whether the Government intend to prosecute the Collector of Customs in this connexion?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The Government have perused the notice of public auction ordered by the Collector of Customs for non-clearance of certain imported merchandise.

" (*b*) & (*c*) While thanking the hon. Member for his vigilance, the Government are advised that it is rather difficult to bring this into the category of an offence under section 6 of the Madras Prohibition Act, 1937."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—" Do I understand from the answer that, if by inadvertence some newspaper publisher happens accidentally to publish some similar advertisement, he will also be treated equally leniently? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I do not think so, Sir."

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Am I to understand, Sir, that the printer and publisher of this advertisement are also to be let off? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It is not a case of anyone being let off, Sir. It is a case where the act referred to cannot be brought under the category of an offence and therefore the difficulty would apply to the signatory of the advertisement as well as to the printer of the

advertisement. The question is whether the auction of imported material for non-payment of Government dues after a statutory notification for that purpose would amount to an advertisement which is defined under the Prohibition Act. It is difficult to bring in an act of this kind under advertisement or solicitation as defined in the Prohibition Act. Therefore, neither the Collector of Sea Customs nor the printer nor the Government responsible for allowing the printing to be done can be brought under the Prohibition Act."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—" Would it not be more proper, Sir, in view of the Government's well-known views on this subject that in such cases they should use their influence with the Government of India with a view to having this objectionable liquid poured into the sea instead of being sold, so that it may not corrupt some unfortunate individual?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" By and by, Sir, but not so soon." (Laughter.)

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Will the Hon. the Premier inform the House what he would do if a common informer takes action in this matter?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I have already said, Sir, it does not depend on the Government's disinclination, but it depends on the nature of the act itself. It is a serious thing that I am now trying to explain. The sale of intoxicating liquor is permitted in Madras. A particular kind of solicitation is prohibited even in Madras. The sale as permitted, without such solicitation, is not an offence. The question is whether, if the duty is not paid on an imported article, the thing has to be sold and the minimum statutory requisites for such sale must be permitted. Therefore, as a serious lawyer I am giving out this answer that it would not be a solicitation punishable under the Madras Prohibition Act. But if there is a solicitation even in respect of that article, if the Collector went about hoosting that stuff, he would be liable to be punished. I know that."

Estimated period for the introduction of Prohibition in all the districts of the Province and the basis for the selection of districts for such introduction each year.

* 959 *Q.*—SRI MUTHU KR. AR. KR. ARUNACHALAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the period within which the Government propose to introduce Prohibition in all the districts of the Province; and

(*b*) the policy of the Government in their selection of the districts for such introduction?

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) It is not possible to fix the exact period in advance. It depends on a variety of factors such as the financial position of the Province, the attitude of the people and their readiness to shoulder the burden hitherto borne by the classes driven to drink, in the shape of the Excise revenue.

" (*b*) The selection of the districts for the introduction of Prohibition is determined by their contiguity to the existing dry area and the consequent facilities in enforcement, the amount of Excise revenue involved and other circumstances that are important in the administration of the Province as a whole."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask whether it is possible to introduce Prohibition in all the districts after the Sales Tax comes into effect?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" As soon as we reach an actual standard of receipts by way of revenue it may be possible, Sir."

Proposal to increase the sanctioned strength of The University Training Corps.

* 960 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the students of which of the colleges in this Province take part in " The University Training Corps ";

(*b*) how many from each;

(*c*) what the sanctioned strength of the Corps for this Province is; and

(*d*) whether the Government will consider the question of making representations to increase the sanctioned strength of the Corps?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The colleges which supply members to the University Training Corps and the number of students from each are as follow:—

Name of the college.	Number of students.
Engineering College, Guindy	77
Medical College, Madras	82
Christian College, Tambaram	81
Pachiappa's College, Madras	79
Presidency College, Madras	78
Loyola College, Kodambakkam	41
Government Muhammadan College, Madras.	40
St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly ...	119
National College, Trichinopoly	40
Total ...	637

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"(c) The sanctioned strength of the Corps for this Province is 26 officers and 637 other ranks.

"(d) Applications to increase the strength have to be made by the University. The Government, however, will support any practicable proposal for enlarging the University Training Corps."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether the Andhra University has not made any application in this matter?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I believe it has not yet made, Sir. But I am not so sure."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that those who have had training once, do not have any training either in camp or military life after leaving college?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is so, Sir; but for that reason must they go and seek war? Is that the idea?"

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether it will be possible to see that the training is not wasted with regard to these people and that they get a period of training for about ten days or a week in a year, to come in contact with camp and military life?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If you wish to continue that training they can join territorial battalions."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"I am only suggesting that those who have had training already in the University Training Corps will lose this training and it will be a waste of time and a waste of money. The Government should not waste such good material and so I suggest that they may be given opportunities to have some sort of training, a refresher course, or whatever you may call it, for a week or for ten days in a year. Will it not be possible for the Government to do that?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The matter will be given due consideration, Sir."

Arrangements made for the attestation of documents of foreign countries by ladies in the mufassal.

* 961 *Q.*—SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether in view of the answer given on 19th August 1938 to clauses (c) and (d) of my starred question No. 113, the Government have considered the matter; and

(b) if so, what arrangements have been made to mitigate the inconvenience and difficulties experienced by ladies in the mufassal to go over to Madras for attesting documents of foreign countries?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) & (b) The Government have since issued orders authorizing all Notaries Public in the Province who have been or may in future be appointed as such under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, to attest every document that is required by any law to be attested by a Notary Public."

Alleged unlawful and coercive methods adopted for the collection of revenue in certain villages in Mandasa Estate.

* 962 *Q.*—SRI P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the ryots of Gaudu Konkadaputti and other villages of Kaspa Agency Muttah in Mandasa Estate, now under the Court of Wards, about the alleged high-handed and coercive methods of collection adopted by the estate officials;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the manager, with the assistance of the Police, unlawfully attached paddy and seedlings and took them after nightfall;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that one ryot, Dodla Ramudu, was beaten by the estate officials and that Harijan females were beaten by the Police; and

(*d*) what the Government propose to do in the matter and whether any open and independent enquiry will be held to render justice to the sufferers?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The Government have no information but have called for a report."

Details of the seasonal remissions granted in the cyclone-affected areas of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna districts.

* 963 *Q.*—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the details of the seasonal remissions granted in the cyclone-affected areas of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna districts?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" The extent of seasonal remissions granted in the cyclone-affected areas of the East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna districts will be known only towards the close of the fasli year."

Ratification of the agreement regarding the sharing of the waters of the Tungabhadra by the Nizam's Government.

* 964 *Q.*—SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Nizam's Government at Hyderabad has ratified the agreement recently proposed at Madras about the sharing

of the waters of the Tungabhadra river for purposes of irrigation between the Madras Presidency and the Nizam's Dominions;

(b) if the agreement has been ratified, what steps the Madras Government have taken to inaugurate the Tungabhadra Project; and

(c) if the agreement is not ratified, what the Government propose to do about the Tungabhadra Project?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The question as to the further steps to be taken in the matter is under consideration.

" (c) This does not arise in view of the answer to clause (a) above."

Improvements to the minor ports in Tanjore district.

* 965 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what the minor ports under the control of the Provincial Government in the Tanjore district are;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to improve the above ports from the amount allotted for the improvement of the minor ports from the Minor Ports Fund;

(c) if so, what the improvements they propose to do are;

(d) how much amount is allotted for each of these ports;

(e) whether the Provincial Government have taken any further steps to resume the passenger traffic to Ceylon through Point Calimere Port;

(f) if so, what the steps taken are and the results thereof; and

(g) if not, whether the Government have any intention to take steps to resume the said passenger traffic in future?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" (a) The minor ports are—

(1) Tirumalavasal.

(2) Tranquebar.

(3) Negapatam including Nagore.

(4) Topputhurai.

(5) Point Calimere.

(6) Adirampatnam.

(7) Muttupet.

(8) Ammapatnam.

(9) Kattumavadi.

(10) Krishnajipatnam.

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"(b), (c) & (d) No allotment is made from the Minor Ports Fund before the improvements are sanctioned. Proposals for cutting the bar at the port of Tirumalavasal every alternate year (at a cost of Rs. 250) have been sanctioned. Provision for it is being made in the Budget Estimate of the Minor Ports Fund for 1939–40. There are no proposals which require consideration for improvements to the other ports.

"(e), (f) & (g) The opening of a port for foreign travel has to be sanctioned by the Government of India. This Government have recommended to the Government of India that Point Calimere may be thrown open for foreign trade and travel and their reply is awaited."

Orders, if any, passed on the proposal to fill up the Chairmanship of the Tuticorin Port Trust permanently.

* 966 *Q.*—Sri K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Tuticorin Port Officer who is Secretary to the Tuticorin Port Trust has recently been placed in charge of the Chairmanship of the Trust also;

(*b*) whether any representation has been made to the Government on the matter of filling up the Chairmanship permanently and whether the Government have passed any orders thereon; and

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) is in the affirmative, what the orders are?

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"(*a*) The outgoing officer was asked to hand over charge to the Port Officer pending the appointment of a Chairman.

"(*b*) A representation was received from the Secretary of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin. No separate orders were passed thereon.

"(*c*) A notification has since been published appointing the Revenue Divisional Officer, Tuticorin, as Chairman."

Sri L. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR:—"May I ask, Sir, while all along it was customary for the Vice-Chairman to act as Chairman, why recently the Government directed the Chairman to hand over charge to the Secretary of the Port Trust?"

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"All along an I.C.S. officer used to be the Sub-Collector there and he used to be the Chairman of the Port Trust. This time one Provincial Service officer was appointed as Divisional Officer. Therefore, before leaving the I.C.S. officer handed over charge to the Port Officer, and not to anybody else. Afterwards it was brought to our notice. We have passed orders that whoever is the Revenue Divisional Officer must be the Chairman.

The Vice-Chairman cannot take charge as there are certain duties to be performed which only the Revenue Divisional Officer can perform."

Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" May I ask, Sir, what action the Government propose to take against the officer who went on leave and obviously purposely handed over charge to the Secretary of the Port Trust? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" It was not wrong on his part to have handed over charge to the Port Officer till orders were issued by the Government."

Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any remuneration for this chairmanship? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" No, Sir."

Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" Do the Government propose to continue this tradition of appointing European I.C.S. officers only as Chairman of the Port Trust of Tuticorin? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" No. Whoever happens to be the Revenue Divisional Officer of Tuticorin will be the Chairman. We have passed orders to that effect."

Sri Y. V. A. BHASKARA RAO Mahasayo :—" May I know what the necessity was for charge being handed over to the Port Officer when there was a Revenue Divisional Officer—an Indian on the spot? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" There was always an I.C.S. man in Tuticorin holding the subdivision charge. When for the first time a Provincial Service man was posted to that place, the I C.S. man who was under transfer did not know what to do. So, pending the orders of Government he handed over charge to the Port Officer who is the proper person to look after the Port. When this matter was referred to the Government they issued suitable orders."

Sri Y. V. A. BHASKARA RAO Mahasayo :—" May I know whether it was under the orders of the Government that the I.C.S. officer handed over charge to the Port Officer? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" The I.C.S. officer handed over charge to the Port Officer in the usual course. There was no time for him to take orders from the Government."

Sri D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR :—" When the Provincial Service officer was carrying on the arduous duties of the Revenue Divisional Officer, may I know why he was not considered capable of doing the work with reference to the Port Trust also? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" The Government think he is capable and that is why he has been appointed."

Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is a tradition that only European I.C.S. officers are posted to Tuticorin because they have to act as Chairman of the Port Trust? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" I do not know what the mental reservations of the Government were when they posted only European I.C.S. officers to Tuticorin."

Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether those same mental reservations have been shared by the present Government? "

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" The fact that we have appointed a Provincial Service Officer to take up the post for the first time shows what policy we are following." (Laughter.)

Statistics regarding the revenue from and the expenditure on the several civil courts in Vizagapatam, Rajahmundry and Bezwada in 1900, 1920 *and* 1935.

* 967 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the revenue realized by way of court-fees on account of original suits, appeals and execution of decrees in the several civil courts in the towns of Vizagapatam, Rajahmundry and Bezwada in 1900, 1920 and 1935; and

(*b*) the total expenditure on account of these courts during the same years?

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information and do not consider that the compilation of the information is justifiable in view of the time and labour that would be involved in its collection."

Conduct of the meetings of the District Road Traffic Boards.

* 968 *Q.*—Sri V. BHUVARAHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the meeting of the District Road Traffic Board is to be conducted *in camera*; and

(*b*) if not, whether the bus owners can be present at the meeting as a general rule?

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) The meetings of District Road Traffic Boards are not open to the general public; persons who are permitted or are entitled under the rules to make representations are permitted to attend.

" (*b*) As regards their right to make representations on particular items on the agenda, the position is explained in the answer to (*a*) above."

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Names of members of the Central Road Traffic Board.

* 969 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state the names of the members of the present Central Road Traffic Board?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The members of the *Central Road Traffic Board are the First Member of the* Board of Revenue, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, the Chief Engineer to Government, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) and the Inspector-General of Police."

Sri V. S. R. M. Valliappa Chettiyar rose from his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I thought the answer did not need any further elucidation."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" Only a short question, Sir. May I ask whether the Government will permit the Press to report the proceedings of the Board?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I do not think there is any necessity to report the proceedings of the Traffic Board."

Sri S. Nagappa rose from his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is about the names of the members of the Central Road Traffic Board. No supplementary question can arise from it."

Action taken by Government on the resolutions passed at the meeting of the Indian 'medicos' held at Tenali.

* 970 *Q.*—SRI K. VENKATAPPAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether, on behalf of the public meeting of the Indian 'medicos' held at Tenali, Guntur district, on 8th January 1939, resolutions were submitted to the Government praying (i) for the inclusion of L.I.Ms. and A.L.I.Ms. in the list of Medical Practitioners to be trained for public health work, (ii) not to abolish the cadre of the Indian Medical Inspectors and (iii) not to reduce the subsidies of the Rural Medical Practitioners; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have considered the desirability of granting any one or more of the prayers above mentioned?

SRI A. B. SHETTY (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:—" (*a*) The resolutions have not been received but as regards item (i) the Government have decided to extend to L.I.Ms. and A.L.I.Ms. in charge of rural dispensaries of Indian medicine the scheme for the training in and performance of public health work. As

regards item (ii) there is no intention to reduce the number of inspecting medical officers further. Item (iii) is still under consideration.

" (b) In view of the answer to clause (a) the question does not arise."

Measures for the prohibition of the use of mill-polished rice.

* 971 *Q.*—SRI MUTHU KR. AR. KR. ARUNACHALAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government propose to take any steps to prohibit the use of mill-polished rice and if so, what steps?

SRI A. B. SHETTY (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:—" The question is under the consideration of the Government."

pplication of Mr. Morris of Attikan Estate, Kollegal, for the assignment of some forest land in the Kollegal taluk for plantation.

* 972 *Q.*—SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR: Will the Ion. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be leased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Morris of Attikan Estate, ollegal, applied for about 200 acres of forest land on darkhast bout a year back;

(b) whether the forest land applied for forms part of the ater-shed of any irrigation source in Kollegal taluk;

(c) if so, whether the said land is likely to affect the irriga-on source of Kollegal taluk;

(d) whether the local officers of Kollegal taluk have reported gainst the grant of the land on darkhast;

(e) whether any final order was passed by the Collector of oimbatore on the darkhast application; if so, to what effect;

(f) whether it is a fact that the darkhast application has been enewed now, and attempts are being made to get the land on arkhast for plantation; and

(g) whether the Government will be pleased to issue neces-ary instructions to the authorities concerned with a view to safe-uard the irrigation interests of the public of Kollegal?

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" (a) The Government have received a letter from Mr. Morris, dated 7th January 1938, asking whether any land would be granted or leased for cultivation of oranges on the hills in the

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Kollegal and North Coimbatore divisions. It is understood that the area he wants is only about 20 acres on these hills.

" (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (c) It is reported that the forests in the catchment area of the irrigation source of the Kollegal taluk have been completely denuded by the shifting cultivation of jungle tribes that live in these forests. So the irrigation sources dependent on them have now been largely affected. The reclothing of this area which will be the case when fruit cultivation is undertaken will restore the forest and serve to protect the irrigation sources.

" (d) & (e) It is understood that the Collector acting on the report of the local officers has advised the Conservator that he was not in favour of leasing as many as 200 acres of forest land.

" (f) The original application itself has not yet been disposed of. In the meantime it is understood that Mr. Moris has applied again in October 1938 for 300 acres for cultivation of coffee or oranges in the Kollegal Range.

" (g) The irrigation interests in the area will receive due consideration in the disposal of the applications."

Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY :—" Mr. Speaker, in view of the answer which I think I heard to clause (c) of the question, to the effect that the lands in the Kollegal taluk have been largely denuded of forests owing to forest fires, will the Hon. the Minister concerned be good enough to again address the Collector, in view of the Collector's opinion as given in connexion with the answers to clauses (d) and (e), and draw his attention to the desirability of leasing out the lands for orange and other tree cultivation to Mr. Morris or to any Indian or European who is prepared to grow orange or other trees so that these forest lands may be restored and the irrigation sources preserved? "

Sri N. S. VARADACHARI :—" The supplementary question has already been answered in the answer given. The Government consider that re-clothing of this area is essential. That will be undertaken."

Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY :—" May I ask whether the Government will adopt an active policy in this matter and deal immediately with the serious denudation of forests in the Kollegal taluk where I understand the forest has largely been destroyed by forest fires? "

Sri N. S. VARADACHARI :—" The matter will be considered. I may assure the hon. Member that not only in the case of that area but in the case of all other areas where such denudation has taken place, the Government will take prompt steps."

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Publication of the order regulating the location of toddy and arrack shops adjacent to public roads.

* 973 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any Government Order regulating the location of toddy shops and arrack shops with reference to public roads; and

(*b*) if so, whether that order will be placed on the table?

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to Legislative Assembly question No. 800 answered on 24th February 1939."

Savings on account of retrenchment in the Forest department.

* 974 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have effected any retrenchment in the Forest department since assuming power;

(*b*) what it is; and

(*c*) what the saving in each case is?

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The following retrenchments have been effected:—

Item of retrenchment.	Approximate savings per annum.
	RS.
Seven posts in the Madras Forest Service ...	44,480
Forest College establishment	2,893
Establishment of two Circle offices	12,039
Establishment of three Forest divisions ...	17,927
Abolition and amalgamation of Range charges	21,862
Total ...	99,201

There will be corresponding savings under contingencies, travelling allowance and other miscellaneous expenditure. The Government expect to be soon in a position to announce the reduction in the cadre of the Indian Forest Service, the savings from which will be more appreciable."

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SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I ask whether further economies will be effected in this department?"

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"If they are desirable they will be effected; otherwise, not."

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Will the Parliamentary Secretary please state whether there has been any addition to this department since this Government took charge?"

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"None at all."

Measures for making the Government Textile Institute, Madras, self-sufficient.

*975 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) how many employees of the Government Textile Institute were trained in institutions outside the Madras Province and how many of them are former students of the institute itself;

(b) whether it is a fact that preference is given to those trained outside the Province of Madras; if so, why; and

(c) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to make the institute self-sufficient?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) There are nineteen technical posts in the Government Textile Institute. The Principal was trained in the United Kingdom, two others in the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, and one in Mysore. All the rest have either received their training in institutions within the Province or possess practical experience. Nine of these are former students of the institute.

"(b) The answer is in the negative.

"(c) The hon. Member refers perhaps to self-sufficiency in recruitment. The answer to clauses (a) and (b) clearly shows that no action is called for in this regard at present."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Has the Textile Institute been affiliated to the Diploma Examination Board?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"Notice."

Additional measures for the protection of handloom industry in the Province.

*976 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of handlooms in the Presidency, districtwar, for the last three years;

(b) what the production of these handlooms is in square yards and weight for the last three years;

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(c) whether the Government have watched the effect of the Sale of Cloth Act on the handloom goods; and

(d) whether the Government will take further measures for the protection of the handlooms?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) Government have no precise and up-to-date information. Some figures which were collected in 1934–35 are given in a statement [a] which is placed on the table of the House. It shows the number of handlooms for weaving cotton, silk and artificial silk cloths, durries and cumblies, coir and kora mats.

" (b) Figures are available only for the production of handlooms weaving cotton fabrics. The production during 1935–36, 1936–37 and 1937–38 are 333·6 million square yards of cotton fabrics weighing 83·4 million pounds, 347·2 million square yards weighing 86·3 million pounds and 302·8 million square yards weighing 75·7 million pounds respectively.

" (c) Yes. The Act has been in force for a short period only. No useful inference can therefore be drawn from the working of the Act.

" (d) The question is under the active consideration of the Government."

Sri N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know whether the position of the handloom weavers is becoming worse day by day?"

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" The Government have no information to that effect."

Sri V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the Parliamentary Secretary to take the House into confidence and tell us whether the Government are actively considering the question of taking any steps for the relief of the distress of the handloom weavers who form the largest important community in the Province next to the agriculturists?"

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" I may assure the hon. Member that the Government are doing everything for relieving the distress of the handloom weavers."

Sri V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask what steps the Government have taken so far to relieve the distress of these people?"

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" The hon. Member knows as well as I do what the Government have done in regard to this matter." (Laughter.)

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 497 infra.

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State aid to the manufacture of glass at Madras.

* 977 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: "Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state the nature of encouragement given by the Government to glass manufacture at Madras?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"The Tondiarpet Glass Factory has been helped by securing freight concessions for carriage of glassware over the railways in the Province. Arrangements were made to procure for the factory lands relinquished by the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway for quarrying sand and fire clay. Supplies of glass articles required for the public service have been ordered to be obtained from the Jamal Glass Works provided they are able to supply articles of suitable quality at a reasonable price. Technical advice required by the company has always been available to it from the Director of Industries and Commerce. The factory has also been exempted from certain restrictive provisions of the Factories Act."

Sri P. R. K. SARMA:—"May I know whether the Government are satisfied with the labour conditions prevailing in the Glass Factory?"

Sri B. S. MURTI:—"I think it does not arise out of this question."

Abolition of the posts of Panchayat and Assistant Panchayat officers in all District Boards in the Province.

* 978 *Q.*—Srimathi V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the posts of Panchayat Officers and Assistant Panchayat Officers respectively were created in District Boards and with what purpose;

(*b*) the duties and functions performed and the powers exercised by them; and

(*c*) whether the Government have received any suggestions regarding the abolition of these posts?

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—"(*a*) The posts of District Panchayat Officers and Assistant Panchayat Officers were sanctioned by district boards on varying dates subsequent to the 9th August 1932 for the purpose of organization and supervision of panchayats.

" (*b*) District Panchayat Officers and Assistant Panchayat Officers are entrusted with the following functions:—

(i) Organizing and supervising panchayats and assisting them in discharging the duties imposed on them by the Madras Local Boards Act;

(ii) auditing the accounts of the panchayats; and

(iii) conducting all enquiries connected with the administration of panchayats.

" District Panchayat Officers are also entrusted with the work relating to—

(1) re-arrangement of the electoral rolls of the Legislative Assembly for purposes of elections to local boards;

(2) conduct of ordinary elections to panchayats which were not unions prior to 26th August 1930;

(3) conduct of casual elections to district boards and panchayats.

" (*c*) The answer is in the negative."

Sri K. VARADACHARI:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that there have been requisitions from some districts for increasing the number of Assistant Panchayat Officers on account of heavy work?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir."

Sri K. VARADACHARI:—" Will the Government be pleased to sanction those requisitions which have been received from certain districts?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government receive the suggestions of the local bodies concerned in regard to the matter and come to decisions then and there after duly considering the proposals."

Sri E. KANNAN:—" May I know if the Government in the light of their retrenchment policy are going to abolish these posts?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No, Sir. These officers are doing useful work in the organization and supervision of panchayats."

Sri S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether there were not panchayat boards before these posts were created?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" There were panchayat boards, but since these officers have been appointed, there are more panchayat boards now."

Sri S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know what the percentage of increase is?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Notice, Sir."

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether the Government have any proposal to co-ordinate the activities of other departments with those of the Assistant Panchayat Officer? "

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No, Sir."

Delay in the conduct of elections to the Panchayat Board of Anavardikanpet in Arkonam taluk.

* 979 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the life of all the panchayat boards in North Arcot district was extended by an amended Act of the Legislature only up to 30th June 1938;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the elections to some of the panchayat boards were not completed within that period, i.e., 30th June 1938;

(*c*) if the answer is in the affirmative, what the boards are the elections to which were not completed within the 30th June 1938;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the elections to the Panchayat Board of Anavardikanpet village in Arkonam taluk were held only on 22nd July 1938;

(*e*) whether the Government are aware that the life of the old panchayat board of that village ceased by 30th June 1938;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the Inspector of Local Boards, Madras, appointed the District Panchayat Officer, North Arcot, as a Special Officer for the panchayat board from 1st July 1938 and, if so, under what provisions of the Local Boards Act; and

(*g*) whether it is a fact that an election for the above board was held nearly a month after the lifetime of the old board expired?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (*a*) The term of office of the members of all the panchayats in the North Arcot district was extended up to 30th June 1938 under section 11 of Madras Act II of 1938.

" (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*c*) (1) Sayanavaram,

(2) Arigilavadi,

(3) Anavardikanpet,

(4) Desur,

(5) Kilvillivalam,

(6) Kulakkaravadi,

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(7) Vallivagai,

(8) Velur,

(9) Palayakrishnapuram,

(10) Palasoor.

" (*d*) The elections to the Anavardikanpet panchayat were held on 23rd July 1938 and not on 22nd July 1938.

" (*e*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*f*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards appointed the District Panchayat Officer, North Arcot, as the Special Officer of the panchayat under sub-section (6) of section 240 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, read with sub-sections (1) and (2) of the said section.

" (*g*) There was an interval of 22 days between the date of expiry of the term of office of the old members and the date of coming into office of the new members."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" May I know under what provisions of the Act the Government extended the term of the boards after the 30th June and held the elections? "

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It was not a question of extending the term of the boards. The report of the District Panchayat Officer on the elections that were not completed was received after the term had expired, and so the delay could not be helped. Immediately on the receipt of the report the Government appointed a Special Officer and held the elections."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" After the receipt of the report from the District Panchayat Officer there was no board existing after 30th June. So what was the necessity for the Government to appoint a Special Officer to conduct the elections? "

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The necessity arose because there was no board."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" Will the Government consider the advisability of the abolition of these boards as they have not been properly constituted under the provisions of the Local Boards Act? "

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government do not hold that these boards have not been properly constituted."

Progress of the work of constructing a causeway across the river Cheyyar near Perunagar.

* 980 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations were made to the Government to order the construction of a bridge instead of a causeway

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across the river Cheyyar near Perunagar on the Conjeeveram-Wandiwash road under the jurisdiction of the North Arcot District Board; and if so, with what effect;

(b) whether the said district board authorities received any notice to be sued for damages by the contractor who was previously entrusted with the causeway work;

(c) what amount the Government have so far given to the district board, either by way of grant or loan, for the said causeway work;

(d) what the reason is for the stalemate that has ensued in the progress of the work; and

(e) what action the Government propose to take against those who were responsible for such a happening?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) A representation on the subject was received from the hon. Member. The Chief Engineer has been addressed in the matter.

" (b) The Government have no information.

" (c) The district board has drawn a grant of Rs. 8,422 (till the end of 1937–38) and a loan of Rs. 50,000.

" (d) Delay in the progress of the work was due to delay in the preparation of a revised estimate.

" (e) No action is considered necessary as no particular person was responsible for the delay."

SRI S. *NAGAPPA*:—" *May I know, Sir, why the Government* should consider constructing a bridge when we can get on with a causeway? "

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Whether a bridge is necessary or a causeway is sufficient will be duly considered "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Without considering this matter, how did the Government order the construction of a causeway *previously?* "

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The matter was duly considered."

[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1938-39.

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar:—" On behalf of the Hon. the Prime Minister I present to this House the Demands for Grants for Further Expenditure and Detailed Supplementary Estimates thereof for the year 1938–39."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The discussion on these Demands will take place on the 27th instant."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know the time allowed for giving cut motions on these Demands? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" As laid down in the rules, cut motions should be presented before 3 p.m. on the 23rd instant. To-morrow is a holiday."

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND X—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" I beg to move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 2,26,59,400 *under Demand X—District Administration and Miscellaneous.*' "

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name as follows:—

> '*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 2,26,59,400 *under Demand X—District Administration and Miscellaneous by Rs.* 100.' (To discuss general policy.) "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think ten minutes will do for the speech."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I shall try to be brief, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Hereafter these Demands may be gone through quickly and I think hon. Members may limit their speeches to ten minutes."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I do not think it is a sin, Sir, to represent the grievances of one's own place or plead for the requirements of one's own district. I think it is not a virtue to neglect the requirements of one's own place, because no one else could know better the grievances of a particular locality than the person who comes from that locality. There seems to be a gross neglect on the part of the District officers of South Kanara in bringing to the notice of the Government the real condition of the crops and the loss sustained by that district during last year. It was their duty to bring it to the notice of the Government and urge upon them that remission was required for that district also. South Kanara has altogether been neglected although the district has suffered great loss on account of the failure of the monsoon in regard to the second crop and on account of floods in regard to the

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first crop. I wish, Sir, that this motion should serve as a censure motion on the district administration and I hope that hon. Members sitting on the other side also will sympathize with me and help me in carrying this motion. I submit, Sir, that the Government are not at all justified in ignoring the claims and the requirements of the West Coast districts. Even in the case of Malabar, Sir, the sum proposed to be granted as remission is very meagre. The more we ask and the more we approach, the more the Government are going backwards and backwards. Sir, I had to say some time back that the policy of the then Government was that of a donkey. Of course, I do not say that this Government is a donkey or that its method is that of a donkey. However, Sir, when we ask them to come forward and help us they go backwards, and that is what the donkey does.

" Under the circumstances, Sir, I think that we the members coming from South Kanara will be considered to have failed in our duty. It is our duty to bring to the notice of the Government that the district authorities have failed to impress upon the Government the necessity of giving sufficient remission to South Kanara also. Having failed in that duty we do not deserve to represent South Kanara. Therefore I ask all members coming from South Kanara to resign their membership; if they like they may seek re-election or they may do better work outside. There is no good of one or two of us only resigning, but all of us should sign a joint letter of resignation. It is only then that the Government will realize the feeling of the people in South Kanara. I wish to exclude Mr. Varkey because he does not represent South Kanara alone. But all the other members including Mr. Shetty, Mr. Ishwara, Mr. Baliga and Mr. Karant and myself—all of us—should jointly resign our membership. There is no charm attached to our membership here if nothing can be done by us for the people of our district who are starving, who cannot make both ends meet, who cannot pay their assessment and whose movables are being attached and sold. What is the good of our continuing here under those circumstances? I hope the Government will reconsider the question and see whether they cannot do justice to South Kanara and to Malabar also. If any further information is necessary, I hope they will call for it and deal with the matter justly.

" I wish to refer to one other matter and that is this. Recently there has been a fall in the efficiency of the district administration, there has been a gradual deterioration in it. I do not know all the causes. There may be several causes. It is not because the officers are not working hard or because they are not earnest. I think it is due to the policy of the Government. I may tell you, Sir, if you compare the efficiency of the work turned out in the district offices especially the taluk offices nowadays, with the work done about twenty years ago, you will find

that the work turned out in those days was much more efficient and accurate than the work done now. One of the causes of this deterioration is, I may say, the large increase in the volume of work thrown on these taluk offices without any proportionate increase of the staff. This Government do not seem to care for the quality of the work. They only want quantity. For instance, the working of the Sale of Cloth Act has been entrusted to the Revenue staff of the District Administration; the Revenue department staff have to collect the licence fees and keep accounts. The working of the Motor Spirit Taxation Act and all the other taxation measures of the Government throw additional work on the Revenue authorities. What is the result? The work is done very perfunctorily—not at all efficiently and accurately. The Government send orders to the district officers calling for certain figures to be supplied within a certain date. When they are pressed like this with so much work, how can they do anything at all? If they do not send the figures required within the time, they get black marks. So they send some figures. The district officers know that they cannot help it because the Government want them in a hurry. Some time back there was an order from the Government to the Collector of South Kanara when there was the arecanut post there to send statistics of all the arecanut trees in South Kanara. There are millions and millions of trees, and there are so many arecanut gardens also, but yet the figures had to be sent within the time. The Collector sent his orders to the tahsildars and they in turn to the revenue inspectors and they again to the village karnams. In the meanwhile the time was over. The Collector and the tahsildar were sending reminders. So the Revenue staff had to send some figures; that is the kind of work that is being done and that is one reason why the work is deteriorating.

"Another matter to which I want to draw the attention of the Government is the necessity for the co-ordination of the activities of the various authorities in the district. There is the periodical conference of the Collector and the heads of the departments in each district, but the work done there is very formal. It is not done in a businesslike manner. If the Collector and the heads of the departments place before the conference the programme of work of rural development for the coming year, if the programme is discussed there, if suggestions are made and views are exchanged, then of course there will be better result. For instance, take the case of the construction of roads."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has just one minute more."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With regard to construction of roads the Forest department also constructs roads in the forest areas, but if the roads are not continued there is not much use for the people. If the district board and the Revenue authorities co-operate with

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the Forest department and extend the road, there will be a long road throughout the area. Such co-operation is essential; and for such co-operation the programme of work of the heads of the departments should be placed before the conference and discussed and modified suitably.

" Yesterday, the Hon. the Premier deplored very much the communal mentality of the people. I want the Government to realize that we are here and we have got to exist in this country. If they admit that we have got to exist in this country, they must also admit that we have some stake in this country. We cannot continue for long to be mere *darwazis* and liveried and belted chaprasis. We must have a share in the administration of the country. I do not higgle about the proportion of this community and that. All that I say is that the Government must recognize that we have a place in the country, and we must have a share in the administration of the country. If that is recognized, I will be satisfied. I am not giong to higgle about proportions. If that fact is recognized, then everything will be all right. The Government have graciously agreed to continue the communal Government Order. What I wish to say is this. We may not be as brainy or as learned or as advanced as the members of other communities. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ' Question.') I do not say we are not. You may admit it or you may not admit it. But still granting we are not, if the Government want to give us a share in the administration, then they will find there are enough qualified men in our community. I do not want the Government to appoint unqualified men in Government service. But let them appoint qualified and efficient men from our community without asking them to compete with more advanced communities. It is not possible for us to do that. Why not this Government do as the Government of India are doing? They are not asking us to compete with advanced communities. If the Government are satisfied that there are a sufficient number of qualified and efficient men in our community and if they find that the rules framed for the guidance of the Services Commission are not elastic enough to make it possible for them to select as many candidates as are necessary to work the communal Government Order satisfactorily, let the rules be amended."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Schamnad will now stop. He has already taken fifteen minutes."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Only one thing more, Sir. There is a group of islands called the Laccadive and Amindivi islands off the West Coast. These islands were autonomous under the overlordship of the Ali Rajahs of Cannanore. The Ali Rajahs had to pay a tribute to the British Government. The tributes fell into arrears and these islands were sequestrated and by a treaty they were ceded to the

British Government. The Ali Rajahs are to receive Rs. 23,000 a year according to the treaty. During six months in the year there is communication between the islands and the mainland and the islanders go to and fro in their sailing crafts during this period only. But during the other six months there is no communication at all and nothing can be known about the people of those islands. During the monsoon sometimes big waves wash over the islands. The islanders do not have rice on their islands but have only coconuts and breadfruits. They have to take rice from the mainland. Sometimes the boats that carry the rice are wrecked by the monsoon winds and so no rice reaches the islanders. They have to starve in such cases. But there is no means of knowing what is happening there. Government can't ascertain the condition of the islanders during this period, whether the people are living or dead. Unless at least a radio station is established there it is very difficult for the Government to know anything about them during the monsoons . . ."

Mr. Speaker rang the bell a second time. 4 P

MR. SPEAKER :—" Hereafter, after the first bell, only two minutes will be allowed, and after the second bell, hon. Members should resume their seats automatically even in the middle of a sentence That will be convenient for all—equal justice for all members.

" No member having risen to speak on the motion I shall now put the motion to the vote. Does the Hon. Minister propose to reply? " (Laughter.)

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Yes, Sir, my reply will be brief.

" The hon. Member, Mr. Schamnad, in criticizing the District Administration, referred to four points. The first is that the District officers have not been able to attend to the consequences of the seasonal conditions in the West Coast districts. In that connexion, he said that the sum allotted recently was very small. (Interruption by Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.) He says now that nothing has been given to South Kanara. Therefore, he suggested in all seriousness that himself and all other members from South Kanara should resign as a protest. On this matter, I would like to point out that resignation of membership should not be thought of so lightly on such small matters. If hon. Members resign and go back to the country to seek re-election, they will have to render a very careful account to the people. In this year, several districts have been affected in the whole Presidency either by famine or by flood and cyclone, most unusual and unprecedented. The District officers had to attend to the districts which were seriously affected. So far as South Kanara is concerned, it is not one of those districts that were seriously

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affected. Parts of South Kanara might have been affected in the same manner in which even upland towns of delta districts are affected. While there is plenty in the delta area, generally there is suffering in the uplands whenever there are heavy rains. The rains need not be very heavy from beginning to end; but whenever there are heavy rains, the upland area is affected. And whenever the usual rains fail, famine steps in. Therefore, the hon. Member has no reason at all to take such a serious view of the situation. South Kanara and Malabar are generally districts where the monsoons do not fail ordinarily. The monsoon breaks there; it is only after the breaking of the monsoon there that it comes over to the other areas; but even Nature has been against us this year. Monsoon has failed in some areas in South Malabar also, and Malabar too has protested now that the sum allotted is very small. They have a grievance that they did not get sufficient relief even though I happened to visit the affected area on one occasion. They forget that one visit by a Minister to the affected area at a particular time cannot furnish conclusive proof about the failure of the season throughout. It is the District officers and the Divisional officers and their subordinates that are in charge of the whole work and the Government have to depend upon their reports.

" The point raised by the hon. Member is that these officers have not been bestowing proper attention to the work when trouble comes in. If there is any mistake, Sir, it is in the system in which the District officers are carrying on their work. (Interruption by Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.) The hon. Member says, ' Mend the system.' Certainly, it is the desire of the Government to mend the system as far as possible and as quickly as possible. As a Revenue Minister sitting in the Fort St. George, I am not expected to know all about what goes on in the villages, in the districts and in the taluks and towns. The District Collectors being in charge of the whole district, they are not expected to know all that is going on in every nook and corner of the whole district. Therefore, under the existing system, the officer in charge of the particular area has to look into it; the officer above the village officers being the Revenue Inspector, the work starts with him and it goes up. I am not enamoured of this system and the way in which the work has to be carried on. I am anxious that the system must change in such a manner that all these matters are attended to by those who are the proper judges to report on the spot. This is a centralized Government to-day and the work is done under that system; and we are anxious that this work must go back to responsible bodies that may come into existence hereafter, that should function and that should record on the spot where the rain fails, where the crops fail, where the people suffer. It would be very easy, Sir, if village autonomous units come into existence and the responsibility is thrown

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on their shoulders; it would then be easy for them to give accurate reports, so that justice may be done. For that, the co-operation of the House is necessary, and the Government would do their best. It is bound to take time; we cannot introduce effectively such changes in a few months or even in one or two years. We are moving in that direction, and I hope that will come into existence soon.

"Then reference was made to the question of communal proportion. Much was said yesterday by the Hon. the Premier upon this question that I should not attempt to cover the ground once again. *I want to make this submission with regard to the question of communal representation.* For some reason or other, twenty years ago this communal propaganda started. It was admitted at the time that the whole propaganda and agitation centred round offices and appointments. That was what was admitted by the sponsors of the agitation though some of them are no more to-day. I have to make this observation that so long as the nation, or a substantial section of the nation is agitating for a share in offices and appointments without referring even casually to the measures that will bring food and clothing to the population as a whole, they would never become fit for self-governing institutions. We were off the rails twenty years ago and we have not yet come back upon the rails even after the last general election and even after the conclusive verdict of the electorate. How many appointments are there to be given to them? I would like hon. Members, when they refer to the share in the offices and appointments, just to pause and think how many appointments there are under the Government from the top to the bottom and what comparison they bear to the number of the population on whose behalf they have entered this House. Is that all that is necessary to bring food and clothing to them? Day in and day out, hon. Member after hon. Member gets up in his place and talks about the question of distribution of offices and appointments. If I am left alone I would not hesitate to offer all the appointments to those friends and ask whether they would be satisfied. Would that give food to those who are suffering, in whose name hon. Members address the House with such bitterness at times? What is the condition of the people? As you go into the villages, and get into touch with them, you see what their food is, what the clothing is that they wear, what houses they live in and what water they drink. These are the problems that have to be solved. Leaving these things alone and talking of communal appointments is not proper; it is not democracy. No House can claim to be a demorcatic House so long as the Members confine their attention to a few appointments and not to the general good of the people. I appeal to hon. Members not to speak of communal rotation, not to speak of communal representation and not to ask how many places have been given to this community or that. Will it be possible 4-1[illegible] p.m

physically either in this country or in any part of the world to distribute these offices equally amongst all people and amongst all the communities? We have taken everything from Great Britain. Great Britain has been leading the whole world in regard to this matter. There were people there—fortunately they are not there now—who claimed such things then but not on such a large scale as in this country, which is peculiarly situated. Does any one there say, either in the House of Commons or in the House of Lords, that appointments have been given to that man or this, to a Jew and not to an Englishman, to a Scotchman and not to an Englishman and to an Irishman and not to an Englishman? If there had been any such talk, would they be the nation they are now to-day? We have been the subjects of Great Britain for a hundred years and more. We have not taken their virtues, but have readily copied their vices. I am appealing to hon. Members to change their outlook and turn to those items which will do good to the people. It is in that wider field that the Opposition as well as the Government will have to work together, will have to co-operate with each other. So long as the communal Government Order is there, I do not object to hon. Members asking for its enforcement and the enforcement of the proportion. I do not object to their criticism whenever the Government go wrong. It is all the same an unfortunate thing that it is there and personally I do not like it. If we are worth anything in this country or in the world, we should be able without the communal Government Order to carry on the administration and do justice as between man and man in such a manner that they would be better than under the communal rule. I do not contend for a moment that the minorities should be ignored. There are good men amongst all classes of people. You have got the best of men even amongst those that do not know a word of English and they are as much fitted to carry on the administration of any country as any one who has passed high examinations and qualified himself. It is that that we have to have an eye on. What is this language in which the business is being conducted? There are so many in this House who do not understand a word of what I am talking."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no compulsion upon the Hon. Member to speak in this language."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I would not enter upon the wider topic. I would suggest to hon. Members that we should all realize what our duties are and do them to our satisfaction.

"My hon. Friend referred to the Laccadives and Amindivis. It is a long time since I saw the conditions there and conditions were so different then from what they are at present. In spite of the fact that there are difficulties, I assure the hon. Member

that whatever is possible is being done and in the light of the observations of the hon. Member we shall further try to do what we can. My hon. Friend asks me how I happened to go there. I may tell him that I happened to go there as a wanderer, not only to that place but to several parts of the globe.

"I hope the hon. Member would withdraw the cut motion."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XI—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 73,84,900 *under Demand XI—Administration of Justice.*'"

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 73,84,900 *for Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

I shall refer to only one question and that is the question which is as old as the Congress itself whose representatives to-day are governing the country, namely, the question of the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. That question has of late receded to the background. Soon after this Ministry took charge, there were demands made from certain quarters that this long-standing policy of theirs should be given effect to. But the Hon. the Premier did not lose time in making it clear to the public that he at any rate had no intention to give effect to it in the near future. The arguments that he has advanced against giving effect to that policy were—but they were given on two different occasions—that now that a popular Government with a person chosen by the people was at the head of the administration, the necessity for the separation has disappeared. (Interruption.) The Hon. Premier says that he has not said it. As regards the utter- 4
ances of Members of Government made outside the House, we can P
know only from the press reports and if the press reports are not contradicted, we hold that these statements have been made. Whatever that might be, Sir, my point in rising at this juncture is this, that the time is most propitious, that the present circumstances are the most suitable, for making such a separation. I say that the time is most propitious for this reason. The Government themselves have found it necessary to go on abolishing civil

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courts in various parts of our Province. The existing civil courts have not got sufficient work to keep the presiding officers fully engaged for the time for which they are paid. That will justify the Government in reducing the number of courts. It seems to me, Sir, it will be a very wise policy on the part of the Government to take note of these circumstances and reduce not merely the civil courts but also at the same time the subdivisional magistrates' courts proportionately. In regard to the work for civil courts, the criminal work from the magistrate may be transferred from the executive officer to the Judiciary. The expenditure can be met that way. The chief complaint or the chief reason why this question of separation was avoided is one of finance. They say, that the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive would involve a cost which would be beyond the means of this Province. It seems to me, Sir, that this question can be met by reducing the civil courts and at the same time the number of subdivisions and the number of sub-magistrates relieving the magistrates, the executive officers of their magisterial work and confining them to purely revenue work and transferring their magisterial work on to the civil courts. The civil courts will be of course dealing purely with civil work. They will have full time work to deal with civil work, but they will also deal with all these special cases that come from the magistrates' courts. The number of magistrates who are thus relieved of their magisterial work will have full time, all their time, to devote to their executive work resulting in the reduction of a number of these officers, subdivisions and so on. Of course there is an argument that might be advanced against this. That is, 'If we are reducing the number of courts, it necessarily implies that the income of the Government under the head "Civil Justice" is going down. Therefore, we cannot club Civil Justice with Criminal Justice.' But the Hon. the Premier himself pointed out last year during the course of the Budget that Government finance cannot be run in compartmental ways and each department cannot be treated as a sort of commercial transaction striking a plus and a minus balance under each head, that the general finances of the Province should be taken as a whole, and that it should be only finally considered whether ultimately the income cannot cover the expenditure which we may have to incur by giving effect to this sort of separation.

"Apart from this question it seems to me that because now we are being governed by a popular Government with one party in power and another party in Opposition—not merely by a bureaucracy which is not responsible to anybody except the authorities above—because the Government is run on party basis, the opposition party is likely to come into power again to-morrow. Under this sort of system we are subject to influences which the bureaucracy were free from. A popular Government has a disadvantage; we cannot afford to ignore the recommendations that

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might be coming. These are new circumstances. For instance, the Government have themselves found it advisable that a Public Service Commission should be appointed for the purpose of making appointments. It is absolutely necessary, Sir, that the administration of justice whether in the civil side or in the matter of criminal cases should be absolutely free from and without the outside influence of the Executive; it will be better, Sir, on all hands. The confidence which the public have in the integrity of our magistracy or judicial officers is very much more necessary than even the confidence in executive officers. If a judicial officer is really dishonest but at the same time concealing the dishonesty, he will not be so much of a danger to the society as another officer who might be honest, but who by his action allows himself to be open to suspicion that he is not of sound character. After all, in these matters it is the confidence which the public have in the administrative integrity of judicial officers that really matters. It seems to me, Sir, that situated as we are, if the law, particularly on the criminal side, is to take its proper course and if the administration of the law is not to be ridiculed and condemned but should be held in high estimation in the minds of the public, it should be most advisable now to separate the Judiciary from the Executive.

"I should like to give instances, Sir, where people honestly believe in most improbable things. On the day when Ramaswami Periyar was convicted, between the time the magistrate adjourned to the chamber and the time when the judgment was delivered, I happened to be in the corridor. I knew definitely that the magistrate was engaged fully well with writing his judgment, and I knew personally that at the time the magistrate was in the chamber, the Hon. Premier was engaged personally in carrying on the proceedings of a Select Committee. Still a few people there were suggesting that the magistrate was in telephonic correspondence with the Hon. Premier as to the sort of judgment he should give and the sort of punishment that he should inflict. I mean this wild talk, this incredible talk, is still being believed by people; it is because the magistracy is subordinate to the Executive. If, for instance, the magistracy was only dependent on the High Court, the highest judicial authority of the Province for their salaries, their future promotions, etc., and the Executive has had no hand at all . . . (The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar: "Which magistrate?") I said when Mr. Ramaswami Naicker was convicted I went to the magistrate's court. The magistrate adjourned to the chamber to write the judgment and before he came back there was a wild allegation going on among the crowd outside that you were engaged in conversation with the magistrate. I said most of it is due to . . . (Hon. Premier: 'You would have believed it?') I won't believe it. I am only referring to it to show that people believe in such things only because you are

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keeping this system of combining the judicial powers with the Executive and keeping the magistracy under the control of the Executive.

" Sir, you will pardon me, Sir, if under this head I refer once again to the Ettaiyapuram case. I know that I referred to it in Demand VIII. If the Hon. the Premier's reply given yesterday had led me to believe that they were mere occurrence of cases of that sort, I won't refer to it again. If he had given any indication of his realizing that it was a regrettable lapse, I should not have come back to it again. It is his attempt to justify again and again that exemption which I consider to be wholly improper. The argument which was advanced by the Hon. the Premier for withdrawing the case was this. The anti-Hindi people . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I allow two minutes more."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" I will finish within two minutes, Sir. The Hon. Premier in his reply said that these anti-Hindi people should not have held the meeting there and therefore the rioting was the consequence of it. That might be so. And the Hon. Premier also justified and, as a sort of explanation, said, ' Well, when the same thing occurred in Tuticorin I supported the action taken against the Congress people.' There the Tuticorin people were prevented from taking a procession. What was made at Ettaiyapuram had not been forgotten. When the Police would not take action it would have been for the people to interfere. So when the meeting was held people were there; they were entitled to go and meet. In these circumstances people created a disturbance, where it is possible that a disturbance of that sort is an one man's play. You identified people. There was an express identification, you had selected them, charge-sheeted and placed them before a magistrate. That being the case, is it just for them to interfere with the Judiciary and use the influence of the Executive? By that sort of treatment what will be the impression created in the minds of these people who are opposed to the Government? They would say, ' We are aware that the Government will not come forward if we say anything against the Government and if people interfere with us. The protection that we can seek, is a protection not from the authority but from our own right hand.' And that is the kind of impression created. But what is the impression created in the minds of your followers? The impression is, ' Well, anything unpleasant could be made. We can merely create a disturbance. There is to be no consequence at all for us.' That feeling will make the whole difference. I only refer to these points in order that the Hon. Premier will assure us that cases of this sort will not be allowed to recur."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Speaker, inasmuch as the time at my disposal is only ten minutes I am afraid I shall not be able to argue out the case fully."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" But generally the hon. Member does not take more than ten minutes; generally he is very brief."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I think, Sir, the commissions and omissions of the Government under this particular Demand have been so many, that, I think I would have to make an exception in this case. But inasmuch as the time is limited, I shall try to be brief.

" Sir, I would like to join my hon. Friend, Sir Pannir Selvam, in stating that it is high time that the Government thought and thought seriously of separating these two departments, i.e., the Executive and the Judiciary. We expected that when the system of responsible Government came into existence, this would be one of the first things that the Government would do. We were very much surprised when we heard the arguments advanced by the Hon. the Premier. He said that in view of the fact that this is to-day a responsible Government there is no need for separation of these two functions of the Government. But after what the Hon. Premier said we have been noticing that the need for separation has been growing from day to day. We never felt the need for the separation of these two departments so much as we have been feeling under the present Government. I hope that the Hon. Premier will kindly do the needful to see that either the need for such separation is not felt in the way in which it is felt to-day, or the separation itself is made.

" I come next to the retention of the Criminal Law Amend- 4–4
ment Act on the statute-book. I have given notice of a cut motion p.
to discuss this matter. Some time ago the Hon. the Premier assured this House that this statute would not remain in existence and that he would soon see that another statute which will satisfy the requirements of the Government will be substituted—a statute which will not be so detestable as this statute. The present statute is one which was detested even by the Congress. I hope, Sir, that the Government will see their way to bring in the legislation as quickly as they have been bringing in financial legislation.

" Sir, I would next refer to a very thorny question, a question which has become more and more thorny—the question of communal representation in the services. But, I must say, Sir, that we are not anxious over the small protections, which are called percentages, so far as communal representation is concerned. We are anxious about a change in the angle of vision of the present Government. If we find that there is enough proof of the change in the angle of vision of this Government so far as communal representation is concerned, we will—I can on behalf of

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my friends give this assurance to the Government—not raise this question in this House. But, from time to time our experience has been that we have no other alternative than to invite the attention of the Government to this aspect of the administration. Well, Sir, I do not want to go into the facts and figures. I have got figures before me which show that there are various departments even under the Judicial administration where Muslim representation in some cases is two-thirds per cent and in the case of the High Court staff getting Rs. 100 and above the percentage is three-fourths. Then there is the District Court staff where you will find that the percentage is only three.

"I will not go into the question of what the percentage of other communities is, because that is not my concern. When I go into that question I find that it is not the proportion of population that guides the appointments, but there are many other things. If the Government want to follow any principle, say, giving appointments on population basis, then certainly the answer will be most unsatisfactory, because, they will find that communities which are only very small in percentage have a very high percentage of appointments, and even though the communal order has been there for so many years that percentage has not gone below what it was, but on the other hand it has risen up. I am not going in to that question at all. The Hon. the Premier, I believe, was very eloquent yesterday (the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar: 'Eloquent?') answering these questions and he seems to have made out a case that Muslims practically, from his figures, are the ruling people. If we are to be classed as the people who are ruling this Province, then either we are not here as Mussalmans or my Hon. Friend the Premier himself is a Mussalman, because it is he who is ruling. Mr. Speaker, I do not think that we can solve this question of representation of communities by dealing with the question in a very light and ridiculous manner. I do not think that this question can be disposed of so easily. It has to be dealt with seriously and if they want that there should be harmonious relationship between the Muslims and the other communities which are being governed by this Government, it is the duty of the Government to have a different angle of vision.

"In regard to the recent appointments of Judges to the High Court, they may say that they have absolutely no hand in the appointments while I know even the past Government, which was not as responsible as this Government, did have something to do with appointments to the High Court Bench. This Government will say, 'We do not have any hand in it. It is the Chief Justice, the Government of India and the Government of England that is responsible to the King, that make these appointments. The appointments are made by the Viceroy on the recommendation of the Chief Justice. The Government have nothing whatever to do

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with it.' This is how they will speak and I take their explanation, if that comes forward, for what it is worth. But, at the same time I must say, Sir, that when the Government in the past interfered with regard to particular communities, this Government also might have done so. But, if they did not choose to do it, they had better reasons for it.

" Well, Sir, I do not want to go into the various departments of the High Court and the other places where there is no Muslim representation. But so far as offices like those of the trustee, the Public Prosecutor, the Crown Prosecutor and the Sheriff and also the district courts, to which I have already referred, are concerned there is hardly any representation of Mussalmans in these offices. The Hon. the Premier said that these are all small departments where Muslim representation is not necessary or some such thing. I am not going to ask that there should be so much percentage of Muslims in all these small offices, but what I ask is a change in the angle of vision which will give confidence to the Muslim community and other minority communities. The moment they create that confidence I can assure the Government that we will be the last people to raise this question even once in this House; but the entire responsibility depends upon the Hon. Members of the Government.

" Sir, I do not think I need take up more of the time of the House, but I trust that the Hon. the Premier will take early steps to separate the Judiciary from the Executive, because minorities are very anxious over this question. Muslims are very anxious that these two departments should be separated and so are the other minorities. I hope also, Sir, that the Criminal Law Amendment Act will be taken away and that another more suitable Act will be substituted."

*Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Mr. Speaker, the first question that I would like to ask the Government in this cut motion is with regard to the appointments made to the High Court. There have been comments in the Press about certain persons appointed to the High Court Bench. I think, as a matter of fact, we have been told on a previous occasion that this Government have no control over the appointments to the High Court. We do not know what the position now is. Possibly, they have been consulted; possibly, they have made their recommendations. In any event it is a matter of public interest and I will ask the Hon. Minister to enlighten us on this point.

" Next, I would ask of the Hon. the Minister for Law some information with regard to the abolition of courts. There were proposals to abolish a number of courts in various places, district courts, sub-courts and munsifs' courts. The principle underlying the abolition of these courts, Sir, should not always be dearth of work, but the convenience of parties should be taken into

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account. After all, it is a service to the community. You cannot take away a court from an area which is large and make people travel long distances.

" The next point, Sir, that I would like to touch upon is the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. The attitude of the Government has been very clearly explained by the Hon. the Prime Minister on a previous occasion. He maintained, as pointed out by the hon. Member representing the Madras Muslims, that the conditions that existed at the time the Congress demanded the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive do not exist now. But I do not consider that he took his stand entirely on that point. If my memory is correct, Sir, I think he said, ' If you are going to transfer the powers of the Judiciary, the powers are naturally to be transferred to the High Court, and we will be creating an autonomous body within this constitution.' I think he compendiously called it the creation of an *imperium in imperio*. Well, if that argument still holds good, the same argument will apply to the renewal of the plea for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive now made. It is a very happy feature of to-day's debate, Sir, that members in the Opposition should put in a very strong plea for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. There were times when certain members of the Opposition belonging to different political parties did not think it was so vitally necessary, and all the arguments came from the other side. None the less the argument does not lose its potency.

" But, as I said, there is a possibility of people being unconvinced by the Government's explanation and I am one such. There seems to be a case, however, for clearly altering the structure of the present Judiciary without, if need be, altering its relation to the Executive, to provide work for munsifs by making them magistrates also where the Government intend abolishing munsifs' courts for lack of work. It is a different question whether the control is in the hands of the Executive or the Judiciary, allowing that the plea put in by the Premier is possibly justified on the ground that we are at present working under an imperfect constitution, a constitution which has yet to grow. Granting all that, I think there will be no valid objection to try the question of appointing munsifs as magistrates. In all cities you can have judicial officers as magistrates. Under the present system you have a magistrate with revenue experience and he has to dispense justice. To speak frankly, to a layman like me it looks atrocious. When you have the material here, why don't you make an experiment and start with the cities? Why not the Presidency Magistrates be taken from the Judiciary? Why not all important cities have magistrates from the Judiciary? Leave alone the ultimate control. I am not arguing whether the control should be with the District Magistrate or the District Judge. As a start

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it may be done, Sir. In a few years, circumstances might change and we all hope very much that before ten years we shall be absolutely free and shall be in a position to shape our own constitution. Why should we not make a beginning? It is not a costly experiment. It is not merely a concession. It gives to the people hope that we are starting this experiment and we are on the right track. I should like the suggestion to be carefully considered.

" Another point I would like to raise is relating to the appointment of honorary magistrates. I do not think it is very popular. It may be a cheap method. But it is quite inefficient. There is definitely a case for utilizing the services of those retired Government officers who occupied responsible positions, who are willing to act as full-time magistrates for a year or two so that they do not rust immediately after retirement. If you thus utilize the services of such of those willing to act as magistrates, amongst this class of people, it is quite welcome. But, the present system of appointing honorary magistrates is different. I can say to the House that some years back I was advised by a local businessman to put in an application for being appointed as an honorary magistrate; he suggested that the next step should be the appointment as a jail visitor and ultimately I would get the title of Rao Sahib. That is the motivating force behind this scheme of honorary magistrates. Very little justice is done by them. My attention was drawn recently to a communiqué in the Press that the Government intended to review the system of recruiting honorary magistrates. But I did not see any special departure from the present system has been made by the Government in that communiqué.

" Lastly, Sir, there is one point which I had mentioned on two occasions before and which was under the consideration of the late Mr. Raman Menon, and that is with regard to the law reform. Surely the present Minister for Law, the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan who is a barrister and a distinguished Doctor of Laws of the Oxford University, is the proper person to take it up. There are a lot of odds and ends in the present law which have got to be changed and some kind of codification made. It would be quite possible, for a Law Commission to be appointed consisting of lawyers and retired Government servants who will be willing to work in an honorary capacity. They may take up this work for three or four months without any great cost to the Government except travelling expenses. It is worthwhile exploring the possibilities in this direction in order to make the laws, so far as Madras is concerned, easily workable."

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—" *கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நான் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகள் விஷயமாய் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகள் ஏற்படுமுன் ஏழைகளுக்கு நன்மையாயிருந்தது. பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகள் ஏற்பட்ட பிறகு ஏழைகளுக்கு மிகவும் கஷ்டத்தை உண்டாக்குகிறதாயிருக்கிறது. கிராமங்களிலுள்ள பணக்காரர்*

கள் ஏழைகளுக்குப் பணம்கொடுத்திருந்தால் அதற்காக முனிசீப் கோர்ட்டுக்குப் போகிறதற்கு கட்டுசாதம் கட்டிக்கொண்டு, இருபது மைல், முப்பது மைலுக்கப்பால் போகவேண்டும்; வக்கீல் பிடிக்கவேண்டும்; ஸ்டாம்புக்குப் பணம் செலவழிக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கெல்லாம் அஞ்சிப்போகமாட்டார்கள். இப்பொழுது பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகள் கிராமங்களில் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதால், அதிக தூரம் நடையில்லாமல் பல வசதிகள் ஏற்படுத்திக்கொடுத்ததினுலே ஏழைகளுக்கு அது மிகவும் சிரமத்தைக் கொடுக்கிறது. சாதாரணமாக கிராமங்களிலே பணங்கொடுக்கிறவர்கள் முதலாளிகளாயிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு அங்கத்தினர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய வேலைக்காரர்கள் சரியானபடி வேலை செய்யாமற் போய் விட்டால், கலியாணத்திற்காகவோ, கருமாதிக்காகவோ கொடுத்த பத்து ரூபாய், இருபது ரூபாய்க்கு உடனே பஞ்சாயத்துக்கோர்ட்டில் நம்பர் போட்டு டிக்கிரி வாங்கி அவர்களுடைய சொத்துக்களைப் பறிமுதல் செய்து விடுகிறார்கள். இந்த முறையில் அவர்களே வாதி, அவர்களே ஜட்ஜ்; அப்படிக்கில்லாமல் போனால் அவர்களுடைய சொந்தக்காரர்கள் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டில் அங்கத்தினராயிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் முதலாளிகள் என்ற நினைப்புடன் ஏழைகளுக்கு மிகவும் தொல்லை உண்டாக்கி வருகிறார்கள். சில இடங்களில் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுப் பிரசிடெண்டுகள் சட்ட விரோதமான தீர்ப்புகள் செய்கிறார்கள். தங்களுடைய எல்லையிலுள்ள கேஸ்களில் மாத்திரம் தீர்ப்புக் கொடுக்கவில்லை. தங்களுடைய எல்லைக்கு வெளியிலிருக்கிற கேஸ்களையும் அவர்கள் உள்ளூரிலிருப்பதாக பைலில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு தீர்ப்புக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இந்த விவகாரங்கள் சிதம்பரம் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டில் நடந்திருக்கிறது.

"மேலும் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகளில் சட்ட விரோதமான காரியங்கள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு நடவடிக்கைகளை சர்க்கார் நன்றாகத் தணிக்கை செய்து பார்த்தால் இந்தப் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகளில் எவ்வளவு அக்கிரமம் நடக்கின்றதென்பது புலனாகும். பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகளில் ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்குப் போதுமான ஸ்தானங்கள் கிடைப்பதில்லை. சில இடங்கள் சர்க்கார் எலெக்ஷன் மூலமாக வரலாமென்று ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். சில இடங்கள் நாமினேஷன் மூலமாக வரலாமென்று ஏற்பாடு செய்திருந்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது தேர்தல் வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தேர்தலில் போதுமான இடம் கிடைப்பதில்லை. சிதம்பரம் தாலூகாவில் குமராட்சி என்ற ஒரு கிராமமிருக்கிறது. அங்கே பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டில் எல்லோரும் பிராமணர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்தக் கோர்ட்டில் ஆதி திராவிடர்களை மெம்பர்களாகவைக்க மனமில்லாமல், ஆதி திராவிடர்கள் மெம்பர்களாக வருவதற்கு அவர்கள் (பிராமணர்கள்) தடை உண்டாக்கி விட்டார்கள். அந்த இடத்திலே வர்ணாச்சிரம தர்மத்தைப் பார்க்கிறதினால் ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு அங்கே இடங்கிடைக்கவில்லை. இதை சர்க்கார் enquiry (விசாரணை) பண்ணிப்பார்த்தால் தெரியவரும். இதனால் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டில் ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்குப் போதுமான இடங்கிடைக்க வேண்டுமானால், ஊரிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு இத்தனை ஸ்தானங்கள், சேரியிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு இத்தனை ஸ்தானங்கள் என்று சர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும். ஒரு பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டில் சேரியிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு நியாயங் கிடைக்க வேண்டுமானால் அந்த கோர்ட்டில் சேரியில் செல்வாக்குள்ள ஹரி ஜனங்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களுக்குப் போதுமான ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

"இப்பொழுது பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு எலெக்ஷன் நடக்கிறது, மிகவும் ஊழலாயிருக்கிறது. பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு எலெக்ஷனை நடத்த ஒரு ஊருக்கு தாசில்தார் போகிறார். அவர் தேர்தலில் வோட்டு எடுக்கும்போது ஊரிலுள்ள ஒரு அபேட்சகருக்குக் குறைவான ஜனங்கள் கையைத் தூக்கியிருந்தாலும் ஆயிரம் பேர்கள் கையைத் தூக்கினதாக எண்ணி தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டுவிட்டதாகக் கூறி விடுகிறார். ஆனால், ஒரு ஹரிஜன அபேட்சகருக்கு வோட்டு எண்ணும்போது ஆயிரம் பேர்கள் கையைத் தூக்கினாலும்

அதை முப்பது, நாற்பது, ஐம்பது பேர்கள்தான் கையைத் தூக்கினதாக குறைவாக எண்ணி அவர் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டு வருவதற்கு மார்க்கமில்லாமல் செய்து விடுகிறார். இந்தமாதிரி தொல்லை தாசில்தார்களால் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு எலெக்ஷனில் ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏற்படுகிறது. தாசில்தார்கள் மனசாட்சிக்கு விரோதமாய் நடக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார், ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு தேர்தலில் நிற்க இடங்கொடுத்தது மாத்திரம் போதாது. ஹரி ஜன மெம்பர்களுக்கு ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கி வைத்து விட வேண்டும். ஒரு பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டில பத்து ஸ்தானங்கள் மொத்தமிருந்தால் அதில் ஆறு மெம்பர்கள் மற்றவர்களுக்கிருந்தால் ஹரிஜன மெம்பர்கள் நாலு பேர்கள் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று விதி ஏற்படுத்தி இருந்தால் கட்டாயம் ஹரி ஜனங்கள் தேர்தலில் நின்று மெம்பர்களாக வரமுடியும். இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற முறையில் வெளியாளை எதிர்த்து நின்று வெற்றி பெற முடியவில்லை. ஏனென்றால் ஊரிலுள்ளவர்களை வோட்டு கொடுக்காமல் செய்து விடுகிறதினால் அவர்களுக்கு வோட்டுகள் கிடைக்க மார்க்கமில்லை. அத்துடன் ஹரிஜன வோட்டர்களும் மிராசுதார்களுக்குப் பயந்து வோட்டுக் கொடுக்காமலிருந்துவிடுகிறார்கள். இதனால் ஹரிஜன மெம்பர்கள் ஊரிலுள்ள ஒரு மிராசுதாரையோ மற்றுமுள்ளவரையோ எதிர்த்து நின்றால தோல்வியுறுகிறார்கள். ஆகையினாலே சர்க்கார் அங்கங்கே பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகளில் போதுமான இடங்கள் பிரத்தியேகமாக ஹரிஜன மெம்பர்களுக்கென்று ஒதுக்கி வைத்துவிடவேண்டும். கட்டாயம் இத்தனை மெம்பர்கள், ஹரிஜன மெம்பர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டிலும் இருந்து தீரவேண்டுமென்று ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இது சர்க்காருடைய கடமையாகுமென வற்புறுத்துகிறேன்.

"இத்துடன் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு நடவடிக்கைகள் ஒழுங்காய் நடக்கின்றனவா என்று சர்க்கார் பார்க்கவேண்டும். சில இடங்களில் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுப் பிரசிடெண்டுகள், மெம்பர்கள் லஞ்சம் வாங்குகிறார்கள். அதனால் நியாயங் கிடைக்காமல் போய்விடுகிறது. இந்த விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் அக்கறையாக இருந்து போதுமான நியாயம் வழங்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகளில்லாமல்போனால் கஷ்டமென்றாலும் ஊரில் அக்கிரமம் நடக்கிறது. ஆகையினால் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் கவனம் செலுத்துமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Hon. Minister who has practised at the bar knows that on account of various causes long delays take place in the disposal of cases to the detriment of the parties. This causes also inconvenience and hardship to them. By the time the suit notice is served on the opposite side six months elapse. It may be that the process-servers cause delay. For, we invariably find that the first notice is returned with the endorsement that the defendant could not be found. Fresh notices are then issued and another month runs out. In this way if publication of the notice in the newspapers is ordered or a substituted summons is taken, more months elapse. Very often even after the notice is served, the defendant invariably asks for adjournment on this ground or that. These things result in the prolongation of litigation and justice is considerably delayed. And then after a decree is passed, the same thing happens in execution. By the time the plaintiff is in a position to get the relief he applied for, he will be, in most cases, not alive. Some steps must be taken to remedy this state of affairs in the administration of justice.

[H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur] [21st March 1939

" Sir, the need for the separation of executive and judicial functions has been stressed time and again not only by the previous speakers but on previous occasions also. It seems to me that the Hon. the Prime Minister thinks that it is not quite necessary just at present. Whatever it may be, Sir, the combination of these two functions in one and the same individual is very unhappy. Sir, a magistrate who is always in fear of some higher authority would not be able to do justice. It may be that he may be quite independent in his own way, but still there is that fear in his mind of his superior officer. Justice should be unfettered and the liberty of the subject to get it should not be curtailed. That ought to be the object of the administration of justice in the courts.

" Sir, I have to make one suggestion with regard to the working of the panchayat courts in the rural areas. Now the limit for filing a suit in the panchayat court is Rs. 50. This limit should be raised to Rs. 100 in order to enable the poor villagers to go to those courts for recovering sums of Rs. 100 and less due to them. As it is, these poor people have to go to munsifs' courts for filing such suits paying a fee of Rs. 7–8–0. I therefore urge that the pecuniary jurisdiction of the panchayat courts should be raised to Rs. 100."

* V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—" மேன்மை தங்கிய அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே ! நமது மாகாணமானது இந்தியாவின் தென்கோடியிலிருக்கிறது. அதிலும் திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவானது இந்த மாகாணத்தின் தென் கோடியிலிருக்கிறது. இந்த ஜில்லாவில் போலீஸ் அட்டகாசம் குறைந்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. கொஞ்ச காலத்திற்கு முன்பு திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் போலீஸார் பேரில் கேஸ் ஏற்பட்டு அந்த ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் கனம் ராமகிருஷ்ண அவர்களால் அது கவனிக்கப்பட்டது. ஆனால் . . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Member is speaking on the Police Demand. But we are now dealing with the Demand relating to Administration of Justice."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Probably he is referring to police courts. This Demand will also cover police courts." (Laughter.)

* V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—" அது காலா காலத்தில் சரியபடி விசாரிக்கப்படவில்லை. சரியான சாக்ஷியம் கிடைக்காததினால் அந்த விசாரணை நிறுத்தப்பட்டது. மேன்மை தங்கிய முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் போலீஸ் மந்திரியாக இருப்பதனால் கூடியசீக்கிரத்தில் அதை கவனிப்பார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன்."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, I have got only very few points to dwell upon. I do not want to repeat what my friends have already said.

" The first point to which I wish to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister is this : recruitment to the magistracy. Sir, recruitment to the magistracy from the Revenue service has proved to be very unsatisfactory in the matter of the dispensation of criminal justice. I suggest the experiment of recruiting from the bar for

filling up posts of all grades of magistrates. I do not think, Sir, it will be suggested that I am partial to the lawyers when I make this suggestion. I think the recruitment of lawyers as magistrates will serve the highest purpose. They are people who are trained in law and they know how to deal with cases. I want that those who have had judicial training, those who have studied the law and who have gained experience in the handling of cases should be appointed as magistrates. They will be better-fitted for discharging the duties of magistrates and for dispensing criminal justice. I do not think it will entail any very high cost. On the other hand, the other day an eminent member of the bar in Madras suggested that lawyers should take to other avocations. I do not think that will add to the dignity of the lawyers' profession. If 5–
the Government have a duty towards their people, there are p.m.
methods in which they can utilize lawyers for the purpose of criminal justice even as they are utilized for civil justice.

"Then, Sir, I want to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to the unsatisfactory manner in which elections to the panchayat courts are taking place in the rural parts. Not a single election has been done in a satisfactory manner. Though the procedure is laid down, everything is being abused and rules are never followed. Any amount of effort on the part of interested parties to set right things has not succeeded. Courts refuse to issue writs; injustice prevails, and there is consequent rivalry, faction, discontent and disturbance. This is the result. I want the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and see that things are set right without any delay.

"In regard to the appointment of honorary magistrates, previous speakers have dealt with it at length. My only grievance is with reference to the method of appointment. Such appointment is not made to secure efficient discharge of functions. The Police Commissioner, the Collector of Madras and the Presidency Magistrate are the persons who are asked to recommend persons for the honorary magistrates' place. I do not see why a place should be given to the Police Commissioner in the choice of persons. I do not know why the old procedure is still followed. That practice should be discontinued, as the honorary magistrates will be tempted to look to the Police for guidance and help. Honorary magistrates will always look to the Police Inspector and the Public Prosecutor, to the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner for advice, so that there is failure of justice in many cases. It will be impossible for them to act independently of the Police, so much so they will always be looking at any question only from the Police point of view. So this sort of selection of honorary magistrates is not sound in principle. It has to be kept in consonance with sound principles of jurisprudence. Therefore, if you want to create a sense of fairness in the minds of these people

who sit in justice and if you want the public to have confidence in them, you should at least see that the honorary magistrates have nothing to do with the Police.

"Then with reference to the appointment of prosecuting inspectors in the magistrates' courts and public prosecutors in the sessions' courts and assistant sessions' courts, power vests with the Government, and they are recruited almost invariably from the members of the bar. But for the magistrates' courts, Police Inspectors and Police Sub-Inspectors are appointed as prosecuting inspectors. I submit the training given to the Police Inspectors and Police Sub-Inspectors is not sufficient. Most of them are appointed before they get any sound knowledge of law which is necessary for the efficient discharge of their functions as prosecutors. They virtually function as persecutors. They not only persecute the parties, they also persecute the magistrates and they submit to them. Such a system is pernicious. Prosecutors should always be independent of the magistrates; they should not be policemen, for, policemen cannot take a detached view of the matter. Apart from that, when once policemen are appointed as prosecutors they are not taken away from the control of the Police. The Police Commissioner exercises his control over these men, and that again is the very negation of justice. Once they are appointed as prosecutors there is no need for them to be kept under the control of the Commissioner of Police; they should be given an independent status, so that they may not look at things from the Police, narrow and bigoted point of view, as the Police are always anxious to get convictions by hook or crook; in fact, this is the way in which Police prosecuting inspectors now behave. So I suggest there is great need for separating these functions. I suggest these officers may be put under the control of the Government, even as the Crown Prosecutor is in the city of Madras. This suggestion does not entail any financial commitment to the Government.

"There is only one more suggestion I have to make and that is in regard to the principle of abolition of munsifs' courts and sub-courts. No doubt, there, the policy of retrenchment is taking place. I do not object to retrenchment being effected wherever there is necessity and justification for it. The policy of abolishing munsifs' courts is not sound; for it does not give much money, though temporarily it might entail the saving of a few thousands of rupees. In the long run it will not mean much. The Government have not cared to abolish high-salaried posts, which if adopted will bring a saving of fifty thousand or a lakh of rupees. Instead of doing that they have been tinkering with small offices here and there. By abolishing them they have been creating heart-burn among petty officers only. If they have not power to deal with the salary of the high-salaried officers, let them fight for it and secure it. I would like an answer from the Hon. Minister on these points."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, before the Member in charge replies I would like to say a few words with reference to some matters which were referred to by Sir Pannir Selvam in regard to this Demand. He referred again to a case which was the subject-matter of discussion the other day, and said that it reinforced his argument for the separation of the Executive from the Judiciary, which was the object of his cut motion."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" On a matter of personal explanation, I do not think I said that this particular case reinforced the argument for the separation of the Executive from the Judiciary. I simply referred to this case in the course of my arguments."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Without going into the details of the case again, I wish to submit that in no country in the world can a Government relinquish the right to withdraw cases, entering *nulli prosequi,* discharging prisoners and setting aside from the executive side the final decrees of criminal courts. It is not possible for any Government to divide this responsibility to such an extent as to give up the right of interfering in prosecutions in regard to criminal justice. It is essentially because law and order are inextricably associated with criminal justice that it is not possible for any Government to have a water-tight compartmental division between the maintenance of law and order and the enforcement of criminal law and criminal justice. Hon. Members may look up the constitution and administrative practice of any country in the world from England downwards, and they will find that the Crown claims to enter non-prosecution. The Crown claims the right upon the advice of its own executive officers to put aside cases from the point of view of public policy. Therefore whatever may be the merits of any particular case, to which I do not wish to refer in detail, it is impossible for the Government to give up this right of looking into the cases from the general point of view in regard to administration of justice. And that is enough on that point.

" But hon. Members—more than one of them—were referring to, particularly, the necessity for the separation of the Executive from the Judiciary on account of this Government being in power. I submit that this is a rather morbid way of looking at things. I may give an explanation for members on the other side while defending the Government also. We are in a transition stage at present with regard to Government. We are trying—I may say, both sides are trying in this matter—as to whether Government is functioning properly, as to whether the Opposition is functioning properly. Both these matters are important. We are trying—both sides are trying, I repeat again—in this transition period, because we are apt to get into a wrong notion of things. I venture

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to suggest that it is not correct to say that there has been anything done by this Government which requires or demands particular condemnation. The separation of the Executive from the Judiciary should be decided entirely on independent grounds, and can be so decided. This country has been administered in all departments according to certain policies so far. We have been given responsibility now in certain respects. We can have a first-class administration, I have no doubt, with water-tight departments. We can plan a very expert, up-to-date, western, modern government in all departments on these lines. But it would be extremely costly. It would not be possible for the tax-payer to bear it. Hon. Members will no doubt—some at least—have understood what Swami Sahajanandam has said. He entered a violent protest against the manner in which the panchayat courts have been functioning.

10 "But yet let us consider the position. Can our country afford
a. anything better than these panchayats in the ultimate resort? If we are to have any hope for our country, we must continue to hope for honesty, fair play and justice between man and man in the village and try to decentralize our administration and ultimately depend upon the villagers for the administration of their own affairs. We cannot give up our present system. We will have to overhaul the whole system and devise a system of administration which will be suitable to the tax-payer. It may be that people are so spoiled, spoiled not only by the modern system of administration of justice but spoiled by Police administration and the administration of criminal justice that we have introduced in this country. But we have to get out of it. It may not be possible to get out of it straightaway. If only the political issues that have come up to the surface have to be solved, because we have to function as a Government, if we are to have sufficient time to put aside all temporary and frothy issues that have come up to the surface, and if really we have to settle down as a self-governing people, then I venture to submit that we will have to solve this question of separation of the Executive from the Judiciary from our own point of view. We will have to solve it in a way which is entirely different from the way in which the West has solved it. It is necessary to devise a machinery to make litigation cheap and it is necessary that a remedy for the speedy disposal of cases will have to be discovered. It is necessary to devise a system by which this complicated system of application of legal knowledge is made unnecessary. If we begin to do it and if we begin to find out an instrument of that kind, I have no doubt that we will be attributed all sorts of motives and I am afraid that our experiment will not have a fair trial. Therefore we will have to wait in respect of the overhauling of the present system.

"Hon. Members are only too familiar with the delay in the disposal of cases in the judicial side. People are suggesting, and

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some members have suggested very strongly, that the magisterial side of our administration should also be put in the same colour. If we accept Mr. Basheer Ahmed's suggestion, practically we will find—this I know—that all criminal cases will have the same length of delay as civil cases are having to-day. If the separation that gentlemen are pleading for to-day is really given effect to and if really the courts are constituted as some members have suggested including Mr. T. T. Krishnamachariar, I venture to submit that the delay in the administration of criminal justice will be as scandalous as delay in administering civil justice and arrears in files will be as heavy as they are in civil courts and it will tend to unhappiness among people. I have no doubt whatsoever on this point. It is, however, pleaded that the Executive should have no control over the Judiciary in their judgment. I venture to submit that things in our Province are very different from the administration in other Provinces. Hon. Members are not aware that the modified form of separation which they are working in other Provinces has been reached in our Province much quicker than it has been reached in other Provinces. That, however, is not a matter into the details of which I shall go now.

"Now, hon. Members will remember that judicial training is different from legal training. Mr. Basheer Ahmed was making an all-round plea that only lawyers must be judges and prosecuting inspectors and that lawyers should be made everything. Mr. Basheer Ahmed has had lawyer's training. I venture to say that lawyer's training is not exactly the same as judicial training. I have been a lawyer for a long time and I have no doubt whatsoever that I could not have been a judge. A lawyer cannot be a judge nor can a judge be a lawyer. Surely different mentalities are created by different occupations.

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, was asking that prosecuting inspectors should be taken from lawyers. We have been trying this. This Government has been trying to secure legal equipment for prosecuting inspectors. But that is different from taking prosecuting lawyers as prosecuting inspectors. The suggestion is that once they are made prosecuting inspectors, they should be separated from the Police altogether. If they are separated, I have my own fears. We have enough departments. We have enough opportunities for temptations. In litigation the temptation is very great. Many of the hon. Members have not the same experience of criminal justice and criminal practice as I have. I venture to submit that I at least fear very much that we cannot leave the prosecuting inspectors entirely without control. Whoever they may be, they will have to be controlled, not by some lawyers, but by the Executive. Unless there is some executive control over the prosecuting inspectors, it will be unsafe for us. At the same time there is much to be said for legal equipment for prosecuting inspectors. That is what we have attempted

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to do. Hon. Members will see in course of time that that reform will be given a fair trial in our Province. Now I leave the question of separation of the Executive from the Judiciary.

" But again we come to the question of communal ratio. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan said that I was very eloquent yesterday with regard to this question. I was not eloquent. The figures I gave were very eloquent. I gave figures, common cold figures. There was no rhetoric. If the figures proved to be very eloquent, I cannot help it. That is all that I can say to Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. He said we were treating this question in a light-hearted manner. If I answered the continuous allegations in regard to the inadequacy of representation of particular communities in our services, if I answered the repeated and baseless allegations by putting forward figures, can it be called that I treated that question in a light-hearted manner? If hon. Members who heard these figures were astonished, it cannot be interpreted that we were dealing with this question in a light-hearted manner. Therefore it is wrong, I think, to put off all the arguments that I gave in the shape of figures yesterday by using a phrase that it has been treated in a light-hearted manner. I maintain that if the figures that I gave yesterday are accurately recorded and calmly considered and justly reviewed, there will be no grievance whatsoever. I think when we were dealing with other matters which are much more serious, hon. Members who spoke on that matter put aside all these figures and tried to pick holes here and there in some other matters. If time is given, I shall be able to convince them and show how those figures are correct. However, let me now deal with certain other important points with which we began.

" First, the High Court staff. That was the first thing that was taken up. It was said that the staff in the High Court did not contain enough Mussalmans. I think I did deal with that point but I think I closed it with one sentence. I said yesterday—and I shall repeat it in a clearer manner now—that we have no power to deal with the Justices of the High Court in regard to recruitment of persons in the High Court. We cannot exercise it. It does not mean that I say that if we have power we shall fill it with 25 per cent of the Muslims straightaway. The facts must be properly understood. It is not right to charge this Government with any responsibility in this matter. I have given figures in regard to all departments for which this Government is responsible. That should be enough and it is unfair to bring up some other department which is not at all connected with this Government's administrative responsibility.

" Then some reference was made to the Judges of the High Court. I do not say that it is not right to make a complaint. But the fact is there. This Government has no hand whatsoever either by way of appointment or recommendation or consultation in the matter of appointment of High Court Judges. It may well be a

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grievance, but that is entirely a different matter. We shall have to deal with it differently. It is no use saying that there are not enough of Mussalmans. That is why I am submitting that, in this connexion, it is not proper to fix responsibility of any kind on the Government in regard to appointment of High Court Judges. Then again, supposing we were responsible, I hasten to say that it would be an extreme error to say that Government should have power in manning the High Court and that the Judges should be chosen on a communal basis. Let me say this: even before, as well as now, this Government had no power in connexion with this matter; we have no power, we have no responsibility, we have not even consultation; and we have not even the right to offer advice. According to the Act that is the position. Yet, let me say that that is the only way in which the Highest Court of Justice should be manned. But that does not mean that a Mussalman or any other member of a particular community will not be available and cannot be appointed. It is quite possible to get the right sort of man from any community. But that is not the sort of mentality that should be applied to recruitment to the highest tribunal in the Province. That is all that I wish to say on that subject.

"The question of putting magistrates under different control has been examined repeatedly in all Provinces and every Province feels the same difficulty and trouble, viz., that the responsibility for maintaining law and order is indirectly mixed up with trial of magisterial cases. If hon. Members examine the Administration Reports year after year, they will find that there is a very good percentage of acquittals in all criminal cases. That is a very good evidence that our magistrates exercise their independence of judgment. I maintain that the honour and prestige of the Executive depends upon the independence of the Judiciary. But that is a very different thing from saying that the Executive should have nothing to do with the Judiciary. The honour of the Executive depends upon the independence of the Judiciary and the Executive should get all the judgments, orders and decrees of courts passed in an independent and unprejudiced spirit. But it does not mean that we should have water-tight compartments in the administration of law and order for that purpose.

"I am sorry, Sir, for having intervened in this debate, but with the rest of the points, my Hon. Colleague will deal."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, the 5 45
question of the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive P.M.
has been exhaustively dealt with by my Leader. I simply wish to point out that as far as this Province is concerned there is a certain amount of separation already in existence. For instance, the District Magistrates do not try cases themselves and they are not so intimately connected with the Police Administration as is

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the case in other Provinces. Therefore, the plea that the District Magistrate influences the decision of other Magistrates is not entirely correct. Besides, from the judgment of the subdivisional magistrates there is an appeal to the District Judge as in other Provinces. To that extent there is separation. The District Judge is independent of the Executive and he hears appeals from the subdivisional magistrates. To that extent there is as I said separation already. The fact that some of the officers do both revenue and magisterial work does not really detract from the magisterial work that a particular person does. My hon. Friend the Member for South Arcot and Chingleput Muslims made a great play of the fact that these magistrates are not legally trained men. I would like to tell him that before an officer can be appointed to the position of a sub-magistrate he has got to pass certain technical examinations of this Government which fully qualify him and give him the knowledge that he requires for trying the cases that come before him. The objection that these people have no legal training is really one which cannot be accepted. The same is the case with subdivisional magistrates.

" The financial question was also raised. My hon. Friend representing Ramnad-Madura-Tanjore Indian Christians made a great play of the abolition of the courts and the saving of the money which the Government have made. The only courts which have so far been abolished are the Additional Sub-Court, Tinnevelly, the Sub-Court, Tiruvarur, the Sub-Court, Tellicherry, the Small Causes Court, Trichinopoly, the Sub-Court, Chingleput, the Additional District Munsif's Court, Masulipatam, the Additional Sub-Court, Ellore, the Additional Sub-Court, Devakottah, and the Additional District Munsif's Court, Ongole. As against this, the hon. Gentleman opposite should realize that provision has been made in this year's Budget for the appointment of an additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court at Mangalore, the appointment of an additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court at Cocanada, the appointment of an additional District Munsif to the District Munsif's Court at Karkal, the appointment of an additional District Munsif to the District Munsif's Court at Bapatla, the appointment of an additional District Munsif to the District Munsif's Court, Tenali. Therefore, hon. Members will find that the saving is not as much as they think, because necessity has made it incumbent on the Government to establish these additional courts which I have read out. So what has been gained on the one side has to be spent on the other. The financial argument does not really hold good.

" The hon. Gentleman representing Indian Commerce raised the question of the policy on which these courts are abolished. I would like to tell the hon. Member that these courts have been abolished because after consulting the High Court, the Government have found that the number of suits filed at present does not justify the existence generally of additional courts. But I want

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to tell the hon. Gentlemen opposite that if necessity arises and if the institutions increase and if the Government think that these courts have to be replaced, they will be replaced, because we do not want to make litigation any more costly than it is to-day. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend representing North Arcot Muslims talks of its being already costly. I am afraid it is. But we have got to take things as they are and until reforms are introduced on the lines mentioned by my Hon. Friend the Minister for Revenue, we will have to put up with these things. My hon. Friend representing the City of Madras Muslims is never tired of crying about his misfortune, but I cannot see any misfortune when I look at this particular hon. Gentleman."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" He will never have."

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The question of the powers of the Government with regard to withdrawal of prosecutions was raised by the hon. Member representing Madura-Ramnad-Tanjore Indian Christian constituency. That question has already been dealt with by the Leader of the House. I think I have already dealt with the question of the policy of the abolition of these courts which was raised by the hon. Member representing the Indian Commerce constituency. The question of panchayats which the hon. Member representing the Chidambaram Scheduled Castes raised has been to a great extent dealt with by my Hon. Friend, the Leader of the House. This question is under consideration. I quite recognize the difficulties which my hon. Friend representing Chidambaram Scheduled Castes has to put up with. The Government are examining the question of elections to panchayat courts so that more justice may be done as was mentioned by my hon. Friend representing Chidambaram Scheduled Castes.

" The gentleman representing Tinnevelly Muslim constituency raised the question of the Police rather than of courts. I hope he will again raise this question when the Police demand is taken up. The question of recruitment of magistrates which was mentioned by my hon. Friend representing South Arcot and Chingleput Muslims has been to a great extent dealt with by the Prime Minister in his speech. With regard to the question of honorary magistrates, the Government are revising the rules and the revised rules will have to have a certain trial, and if even those rules are found unsatisfactory I can assure hon. Members opposite that other steps will be taken to see that honorary magistrates function in a manner satisfactory to the public at large. With these words, Sir, I request the mover of the cut motion to withdraw it."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" I will accede to the request."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XII—JAILS.

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I move

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 22,01,000 *under Demand XII—Jails.*'

(At this stage the Deputy Speaker [Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi] took the Chair.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the cut motion which stands in my name, namely,

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 22,01,000 *for Jails be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" My object in moving this motion is to find out from the Government whether they are not trying to reform the administration of jails in keeping with the requirements of the times. So far as I can see I have not been able to find out any tangible reform introduced so far. Of course, buttermilk has been given. But I find that the prisoners are still continuing to wear the same dress which characterises them as prisoners. I thought that in civilized countries a prisoner is not reminded even in the jail that he is a criminal, that he is an offender, and that he is a convict in the jail. Everything that is possible should be done to see that the person who is put in jail is not continually reminded of his crime: The dress that the prisoner is made to wear with all those stripes is, I am afraid, a reminder to him from time to time that he is different from the ordinary people who visit the jail and those who are outside the jail. I do believe that it is very necessary that even with regard to this dress the Hon. Minister should introduce very early reform so that they may be given ordinary clothes and not these shorts. They must be given sufficiently long trousers. These caps—which are called monkey caps—are also a reminder of their convict life. They ought to be given some other cap which will remind them over and over again that they are convicts in jail.

" Madam, there is another jail reform which seems to be necessary and that is there should be a change in the diet. I do not know why the Government have not yet thought of giving rice diet as often as it is possible. Even rice is made into cake and given to the prisoners as if it is very delicious. Cannot the rice be cooked in the usual way and given to the prisoner, so that he may mix it with the sambhar or whatever is supplied to him to be taken along with rice as ordinary people outside the jail do? Outside the jail the ordinary people are not accustomed to taking the rice in that cake form. I do believe, Madam, that this is one of the things which will certainly make these people believe that they are not in the jail; so that when after serving their sentences, they

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come out of the jail they would have forgotten all their criminal mentality if they had them at all at any time. There are many 6 p.m. things done to discharged prisoners. Associations are started and we have got a number of organizations to give relief to such people. All these things are intended to improve and reform these unfortunate people when they come out of the jails, so that they may mix with society and live in society as good people. Whereas, if you are going to keep prisoners for a long number of years and din into their ears every day and make them believe that they are prisoners because they have offended against the law, that they are convicts, that they have to take only this sort of food, etc., that will not certainly reform them and they cannot be good citizens after they come out of the jails.

"The third thing that I would like to ask the Hon. Minister to bear in mind, if he can, is this: Is it necessary that these unfortunate people who are made to work in various departments of the jail should work without any remuneration? For instance, we have in the Madras Penitentiary some departments in which these people are asked to work—I have been a visitor of that jail for some time; I did not go to jail unfortunately. These people are made to work in the press department, in the weaving department, etc.; in some places they are made to work oil mills too and they are also asked to make so many small things. All this work is done gratis and there is nothing paid to these people. Is it not reasonable that some money—although it may not be commensurate exactly with the amount of work they do—should be kept to their credit at least with the Superintendent of the Jail, made to accumulate to the credit of the man who works from morning till evening in the jail, so that he may be paid something when his term is over and he goes out of the jail? I want to say all these things in order that the Government may see that these unfortunate persons realize that they are in jail because of the unfortunate misdeed of theirs which they might have done in their weak moments. And if these people have committed the misdeed in moments of weakness, why should they be punished throughout the period of their incarceration and be reminded in various ways that they are offenders and that therefore they have to work with the sweat of their labour, gratis, for which they will not be paid anything? I hope, Madam, the Hon. Minister will institute the necessary enquiries into what I have suggested so that these prisoners when they get out of the jails may become good citizens and the work of the discharged prisoners' societies also may become lightened.

"Then again, Madam, I find that the Jail Manual is as antiquated as anything can be. I do not think this Government, the members of which have got a good deal of experience of jail life, who are the first persons who could have made the necessary amendments to the Jail Manual, would have kept quiet all this

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time; evidently, they have not yet had time to attend to this very necessary reform. They should devote some time to it, or if necessary, appoint a committee of experts consisting of some Superintendents of Jails and some non-officials, to go into this question, so that the Jail Manual may be brought into line with the requirements of the times. Madam, the extent of the civilized nature of a Government is judged not by the complexion of the administration as it appears outside the jails, but by the manner in which the administration is actually carried on inside the jails. Therefore, I hope that the Government will not allow much time to elapse before this necessary reform is carried into effect."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I think this is the first occasion when I propose to speak on the Jail Demand during the last two or three years. The reason which makes me get up on this occasion to speak on the Jail Demand is to express the feelings of apprehension on the part of certain sections of the public with regard to the treatment of the present-day political prisoners in the various prisons of the Madras Presidency. You may remember, Madam, that on the floor of this House on a few occasions questions were asked with regard to the health of certain prisoners who died. Replies were given, and further references also were made to it when the discussion on the Demand for Ministers' salaries was going on, and answers too were given again. But I should say that the answer with regard to the treatment of two prisoners who died was not sympathetic. The allegation or the suggestion made by the members of the Opposition was that the previous answer was not sympathetic; but I should confess that the subsequent answers also were not sympathetic, though they might be good explanations. What the public are now concerned with is the attention that is likely to be paid to prisoners who may be suffering from any disease in jails. Madam, if I remember aright, I think the Hon. the Prime Minister said with regard to Natarajan that he was sent to jail, though a sick man. If my recollection is right, when he answered the short notice question and read out to this House the statement of the doctors who attended on him, it was made clear to the House that it was a case of cellulitis which was a sudden disease; that the whole thing came suddenly in the course of four or five days, etc. But in the reply which he made at the time of the discussion on the Ministers' salaries Demand, he created the impression as I said, that that man was sick even when he went to jail. Madam, I only wish to point out the great difference between the two statements. It was very plain when the Prime Minister said that it was a case of cellulitis, that cellulitis was not a long standing disease, that it was quick to come and act, etc. Again, in the case of Thalamuthu Nadar, it was a case of amœbic dysentery and he was only transferred to the General Hospital at a late stage. To one of my supplementary questions, Madam, (which was not however fully answered by the Prime Minister,

and of which I had occasion only to-day to remind him) regarding the qualifications of the doctor who is in immediate attendance on the sick prisoners in the Madras Penitentiary, the Hon. the Prime Minister gave out the qualifications of the Superintendent, who, I know, is a Lieutenant-Colonel. He is a Lieutenant-Colonel no doubt and is a well-qualified man; but we all know that it is not the Superintendent who attends immediately on sick patients. Probably it is a sub-assistant surgeon in charge. What I am trying to make out is that the person who is in immediate charge of the dispensary or small hospital in the Penitentiary and other jails must be an able man; and if able men are not already there, they must be substituted by able men; and when any cases become serious, they should take the earliest opportunity to transfer the patients to the nearest hospital. I have no doubt, Madam, that the public will feel relieved if the Government can give an assurance on this occasion that they would take all necessary steps to ensure proper medical attention to sick patients in jail hospitals.

" There is one other point also which I want to raise on this occasion; and that is, the classification of these offenders. What is the grave offence for which these people are put into prison? They simply say, ' Long live Tamil ' and ' Down with Hindi.' These are the two sentences that they say. (Interruption.) The Prime Minister says they say something more. So far as we have read the court proceedings, the offence for which persons picketing before the Hindu Theological High School every day are convicted is the uttering of these two sentences. They say these few words only and nothing more, and still they are taken to jail. And for this offence, Madam, why should C class be given even to women picketers? I ask the lady members of this House to join with me in telling this Government that they are not justified in giving C class to these ladies. (Interruption.) The Hon. Prime Minister wants the lady members here to appeal to the lady members of the public not to resort to picketing. Very well; let them do so. I have no objection; but if any lady member of the public does not heed any such appeal, and if she still persists in uttering these two sentences and picketing the school and then going to jail, then, is it not the duty of the Government to see that they are put in the proper class, especially considering the nature of the offence they commit? What is their offence, I again ask. The want to decry Hindi and say ' Long live Tamil.' And if your persuasion does not succeed and if they continue to picket, should they be put in the C class, I ask. I should be very glad if the lady members sitting on the Congress benches adopted the policy suggested by the Prime Minister and attempted to persuade ladies not to picket; and if they fail, I hope then at least they will agree with me that their offence is not certainly one for which all this suffering is called for. I am prepared to take the risk of the lady members of the Congress Party doing it. The risk of course

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is that if they begin to persuade the lady members of the public not to picket, they may perhaps succeed (laughter); but, as I said, I shall take the risk. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend sitting to my left says that these lady members might join the picketing. Well and good if it happens; it will not only mean an addition to the picketers, but I am sure as soon as they return to this House, they would make an addition to the Opposition; because the Congress would take disciplinary action against them and the result will be that instead of the lady members sitting on that side of the House, they would come over to this side, and that would make a very fine addition to our strength. (Laughter.) Madam, what I am trying to show is that the offence for which these people are convicted—they are not connected with any robbery, they have not committed any perjury, nor are they connected with any murder case or any such thing—is very small. It is for the sake of saying a few words that they are convicted and sentenced. And even assuming that they are misguided, according to the interpretation of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the offence for which they are being sent to prison does not deserve a C class and rigorous imprisonment. After all . . ."

SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know whether all this is relevant to the Demand under Jails; all these remarks ought to come under Administration of Justice."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member is relevant."

3-15 p.m. KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Madam, I was referring to the classification of the prisoners in the C class and not to the judgment of the Magistrates. It could not be done under any other Demand. I have been in the Legislature long enough to know where to raise a particular point and I am not annoyed that the hon. Member has interrupted me.

"What I say is that there is absolutely no justification for placing them in the C class. They are people who seek imprisonment as a matter of conscience and nothing should be done to them beyond placing them in internment. But if they want to break the spirit of these people, it is a different matter and they can do what they please; but I can assure them that their spirits are irrepressible and cannot be crushed by the rigours of jail life. The purpose of breaking them, if it is the intention of the Government, will not be served. So they can as well be placed in a sort of concentration camp. It is nothing unusual for Members to draw the attention of the Government to conditions in jails. Hon. Members will recall instances when the difficulties undergone by many people who had made enormous sacrifices for the sake of the country and were undergoing imprisonment were taken up, and the Government were censured and their attention drawn to the difficulties."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" For treatment you can censure the Government."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I am sure the Government have powers to change the classes awarded by the Magistrates and if they had exercised the powers, my complaint would not arise. To classify them as C class prisoners is, I consider, out of all proportion to their offences. The only thing that they are entitled to do in their case is to treat them as internees and nothing more than that. But then, the Government have a great responsibility with regard to their health and I would urge upon the Government to remember the circumstances attending the death of Natarajan. Early steps should be taken by the Jail department to give them proper treatment and they should inform their close relations about the condition of their health. All precautions should be taken so that ill-health may not end in fatal consequences as in the last two cases; and patients should be removed to best hospitals for timely diagnosis and treatment. If the relatives come forward to look after their treatment, I should think it reasonable on the part of the Government to release them at least temporarily for the sake of treatment, and they can later on be taken into the jail if they are lucky to survive their sickness.

" I shall have to end with an appeal to the Hon. the Premier to translate his sympathy to his friend Ramaswami Naicker into action."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" He has been placed in A class."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I admire the suggestion that a concession has been made to Mr. Ramaswami Naicker by his being placed in A class. You had not given it before But all the same, now that he has been given the class as a great concession, hon. Members on this side of the House are thankful for it. We have to be thankful for small mercies."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" The hon. the Leader of the Opposition is exceeding the time-limit."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Madam, I have always been brief and I am very anxious to save the time of the House. The importance of the subject is such that I hope you will allow me the indulgence for overstepping the time-limit by two minutes.

" What I wish to say is that Mr. Ramaswami Naicker did not picket but the Government thought that the people who were there might be influenced by his presence and the agitation might gain strength. Even if that be not their intention, why should he have been removed to Bellary? It is said that the climate of

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Bellary is very salubrious. This word can be applied to the several beautiful stations in the Nilgiris and in the Coimbatore district and in the adjacent district of Salem from which the Hon. Minister for Law hails, and I even wish I were a native of that district. I do hope that the Hon. Minister for Law will seriously think over the question of transferring him to Coimbatore. From their unwillingness to send him there, I am tempted to ask whether they are afraid to send him there for fear he should get into touch with people there. Do they suspect that the officers of the Jail department of that district will help him to communicate with the people outside? I would ask them whether they have no confidence in their officers of the Jail department, from the smallest to the biggest officers? Even if they think so, I can assure the Hon. the Premier that Mr. Ramaswami Naicker is not the person who will try to get behind the rules and the Hon. the Premier knows it only too well. I would also like to ask him whether there are any records to show that he violated any of the Jail rules . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" While he was with me in Coimbatore he did not violate any of the Jail rules."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" He did not violate any rules and I am glad that with the first-class personal certificate that the Hon. the Premier is able to give him, he should be entitled to a transfer to Coimbatore. I do contend that Coimbatore is more salubrious than Bellary. Further, Madam, I submit that for a person so ardently working for the Tamil language to be confined to a jail in the Telugu district is nothing short of cruelty individually to him. Therefore, I contend on behalf of the Tamilians of this place . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" If the Leader of the Opposition can speak for the prisoner he has been pleading for, I can tell him that if that gentleman will behave as a prisoner in his own house, the Government will have no objection to send him to his own house in Erode."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" It is surprising that one who knows Mr. Ramaswami Naicker more than I do, does not know what answer he can expect from me. I will any way tell him that he would not like to have freedom on conditions. He is not at all for release on conditions The implication of the offer is that you still want him to be gagged even in his own house. He will be gagged within the four walls of the prison and may acquiesce in that position. But in his own home, he cannot be gagged and if this is what is wanted, the purpose could as well be served by putting him within the four walls of the Coimbatore jail rather than in his own house under such conditions. During the coming hot months, Coimbatore will be a much better place than Bellary.

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I am in a position to say that there is a growing feeling in the country—I have myself visited some places where this feeling is pronounced—that Mr. Ramaswami Naicker's detention in Bellary jail is not proper. I am not voicing my own individual opinion.

" My only object in intervening in this debate is to urge upon the Government that more and more attention should be paid to the political prisoners in their jails. Not that I am voicing these opinions on grounds of political opposition to the Government. The Hon. the Premier may say that they are only ordinary prisoners. But I would like to remind him that the expression ' political prisoner is a time-honoured one in this country and everybody knows that those who are convicted of offences other than such offences as perjury, murder, etc., which involve moral turpitude are political prisoners. But the type of political offences may vary and the degree to which you respect the political feelings of such persons may vary; but that ought not in any way to detract the sincerity of their convictions and the selflessness that prompted them towards committing the offences, for in a different state of things, they would not be offences. Therefore, it is, Madam, that I contend that these people should be given better treatment in the directions in which I have already indicated. They should be given consideration during their internment in jails; when they are ill, the utmost care should be taken to have them treated and the doctors in immediate attendance upon them must be efficient men; wherever it is not possible to give the treatment, they ought to be removed to better hospitals and their relations should be informed. I only make this appeal in a humanitarian spirit and I assure the Hon. the Premier that I am not making this appeal on any political considerations or on my objection to the compulsory introduction of Hindustani. I am only dealing with the question in a humanitarian spirit and I plead that the Government should treat these persons as human beings entrusted to their care and attention."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is not my intention to speak at length on this Demand. My idea in getting up to-day is to elicit some information from the Hon. Minister for Law. If I am correct, the Government said some time ago on the floor of the House that they had released all Mappilla prisoners. But, Madam, from a report in the papers issued by a member of the Central Legislative Assembly, we see that there are certain Mappilla prisoners still in Bihar, that they have not yet been released and that they are being cast about from place to place with the result that it is not possible for them to earn their livelihood. I would only like to know what the correct information is and if there are any that have not yet been released, I request they may be released as early as possible."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Madam, notice was received of a short notice question on this subject and

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I was trying to find out the member who gave notice of it but he was not here. I may at once state that there are no Mappilla prisoners known to the Government and who can be traced by this Government anywhere in any Province in India. We have also written to the Bihar Government for information. But so far as we can trace here, there is no Mappilla prisoner now either in this Province or in any other Province."

* K. ABDUL RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am satisfied with the information but if there are any there still, I would only request that the Government will be pleased to release them."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Madam, I would only like to draw the attention of the Government to certain reports published in the papers that when the Corporation Health Officer and the Commissioner of the Madras Corporation tried to go into the Madras Penitentiary to study conditions there regarding the outbreak of smallpox and chickenbox and bacillary dysentery, they were refused permission to enter the Penitentiary. The jail is situated in the heart of the City and any outbreak is as much a matter of concern for the Corporation as it is anywhere outside and they had a particular duty to acquaint themselves at first hand with the conditions prevailing there. We have been told that the Jail Superintendent did not permit them to enter the jail. I do not know what the Jail regulations are; perhaps there are more competent men than myself to speak on the subject and I would only draw the attention of the Government to the serious situation. Situated as it is in the very heart of the City, I think it is very essential that the standard of health there is maintained at as high a level as possible and nothing should be left undone to secure that end. What I am surprised is that the Health Officer and the Commissioner of the Corporation who are responsible for the health of the City as a whole inclusive of the jail, should have been refused permission to enter the jail; this, I submit, is a violation of their rights. I feel that this should be brought to the notice of the Hon. the Minister though no cut motion on the point has been tabled. I shall be obliged if the Hon. Minister can furnish some information on the question. I am raising this point so that the right of the entry of the officers of the Corporation to the jail premises in case of outbreak of infectious diseases there may be clarified."

* MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Madam Deputy Speaker, in connexion with jails, I desire to place two points before the Hon. Minister for Law. The first is about the condition of libraries in the jails. In this connexion from experience as a visitor of the Central Jail at Rajahmundry I have found that the library exists there only in name. The books kept there are such that no body can either read or understand, and it appears as if people in order to get rid of useless books have

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made a present of these to the jails. I suggest that all these books may be set fire to; and at a cost of a few rupees, at a very small cost, small books on morality or religion can be purchased and placed at the disposal of the prisoners and they will be of much service to the prisoners. Not a single man derives any advantage from the so-called libraries. Secondly, in connexion with moral and religious instruction that is provided for in the jails I have stated that in every week, one day is set apart for religious instruction to Hindus, and one day for Muslims, and one day for Christians. Madam, most of these jails are far away from the City and there is no provision made either to give any remuneration to these teachers or at least to grant the conveyance charges of these teachers. So they take very little interest in their work, because they have to spend out of their own on each day.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

" They have to spend not only their precious time here, but have also to spend money for this purpose. What I would suggest is that the Government may be pleased to appoint people as religious teachers on a fixed salary so that they may be of real help to the prisoners who are shut out from the world and who stand in need of moral and religious teaching. This will be a great boon to them. At least some remuneration should be paid to these persons when they go to jails for the sake of these prisoners. At the recent conference that was held by the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society various suggestions were made. I would humbly suggest that these two points may be favourably considered by the Minister for Law, because these are very important and will be a great consolation to these prisoners."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the Minister may now reply (Sir Pannir Selvam rose to speak.) Does the hon. Member Sir, Pannir Selvam want to speak on this cut motion also? "

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM :—" I have to say something about the anti-Hindi prisoners. Mr. Speaker, much of what I would like to have said on this matter has already been dealt with by hon. the Leader of the Opposition and to that extent I shall confine myself to just a few remarks about the anti-Hindi prisoners. I refer particularly to the prisoners who are in custody in the Trichinopoly Central Jail where, I am told the labour allotted to these C class prisoners undergoing rigorous imprisonment is absolutely unsuited to the young men that are prisoners. Some of them just youths of 18, 19 and 20 have, I am told, been given the task of baling out water from deep wells, wells down which you have to go 70 to 80 feet to get water. Others, I am told, have been allotted work of husking paddy with an iron pestle . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" On a point of order, Sir. Is it open to Members in a debate to make

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allegations on facts without having previously put any question with reference to them or without these facts having been brought as matters of public interest in any other way. For instance, a number of these allegations are with reference to facts which are for the first time brought to our notice here in the course of the debate. It would be very difficult to verify the facts or to reply. If it had been a question by way of an interpellation, the Government would have looked into the matter. But arguments are different from facts for the first time being put forward in the course of a debate, apparently from personal knowledge or hearsay."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It would be better, of course, to deal with it by questions and elicit information in the first instance. But it does not debar the discussion on the method of treatment of prisoners in jails."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I do not know if you have taken into account the aspect that I have put forward . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have been closely following . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is open to a Member, no doubt, to refer to facts. I do not raise objection on that ground, but these facts ought to have been elicited either by way of admission in the course of the debate or . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That would have been desirable. At the same time the absence of it may not rule out the speech altogether."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"No, no. That won't rule it out. All that I claim is that the Member should be requested not to make such allegations for the first time now. The speech is perfectly in order, but the allegations are not made merely by way of debate, but in the form of facts."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, yes, of course . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I am pleading the embarrassment of my position."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no doubt about that. In a matter of this kind, the hon. Member must restrict himself to the facts. The few allegations that he makes he believes perfectly to be true, although he may not have personal experience himself."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"Perfectly, Sir. This statement that I make is based on information given to me by these young men who have come out of the jail, as regards the labour that was allotted to them."

* The Hon. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Many of them have been found to be false."

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RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I do not expect an immediate contradiction. I shall be perfectly happy and content if the Hon. the Premier would enquire into it after this and remedy the defects."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Was it not right for the hon. Member to have put interpellations to have that effect?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no question about it. It would have been very much desirable for questions to have been put and answers elicited. But this cannot be ruled out."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"I have not put even one interpellation."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The whole party have enjoyed the right of interpellation most freely."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The right of interpellation ought to have been used and answers elicited so that the Government might have remedied the evils very much earlier than this, if there was real hardship for the prisoners."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"With all due respect, it seems to me that a debate need not be based . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Your allegations, or those portions of your speech are not ruled out. You are not ruled out of order. You could have secured the desired result by an earlier activity. You have not been very vigilant as a Member of this House."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"But to say frankly, Sir, in matters of interpellation, it depends on the amount of confidence any Member has in the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You must develop more confidence."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"It is not an unilateral act, Sir. Confidence has got to be developed by reactions.

"I was referring to this only to show this. As regards their action it might be said that these are all just ordinary prisoners and that they should have been treated like ordinary prisoners. I should like to point out . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the Government may not be in a position to state what labour was given to these prisoners. They may not have got the information. That is the regular complaint."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"If they could, after this, enquire and remedy these defects my point will be gained. I should be satisfied as far as this point is concerned. cerned.

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" And there is one other matter to which I should like to refer. Yesterday when I referred to the anti-Hindi agitators' treatment in jail, the Hon. Premier referred to the very vulgar and abusive language used towards him and the amount of patience and restraint he had to exercise on himself and all that. I do not deny the accuracy of his statement. But I am surprised that a gentleman with the experience of the Hon. the Premier should have at all been upset by these things. These people have nothing to do with the administration of Government. Even in small municipalities and district boards people are subject to undeserved abuse. I might state that the mere fact that we sit opposite to the Treasury Bench does not save us altogether from abuse. It is very common experience that you pay two annas for unpaid letters. When an unstamped letter arrives you pay two annas for it and open it; it is not a secret letter inside, but a letter in abusive language."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Why should you pay? Hereafter you need not pay." (Laughter.)

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" It sometimes happens. The first time you do not know what it contains. Another time you may not be eager to see what it contains and what people think of you.

" But is it just to assert that it is the activity of the anti-Hindi agitators? I do not think it is generous on the part of the Hon. the Premier. I speak from personal experience. I have been present at various meetings of the . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I did not refer to any letters received by me at all. I referred to speeches made by persons in this agitation from platforms."

MR. SPEAKER:—" And the articles in the Press . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" And things written in the Press."

MR. SPEAKER:—" He has specifically mentioned these two categories."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" Well, Sir. On that I can say from my personal experience that in the anti-Hindi meetings attacks have been made on the Premier and Members of the Government. I know, I have myself made attacks, violent attacks, but never a libel."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Shall I send you a copy of the report?"

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" You might get such reports and there are so many irresponsible fellows who talk like that. Are we not abused on platforms to-day by your followers, on behalf of the Congress? Do we not hear reports

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about it? All that I can say is that these are matters which we people have to wipe off. There is the waste paper basket by the side of you. Throw these there and laugh over it and be done with it.

"Another thing the Hon. the Premier said was about the prisoners who were being ill. I do not hold a brief on behalf of one or the other. I have nothing to do with the men who send these men to picket. I know nothing about it. I can say quite frankly, I know nothing about it. But striving to make just a debating point from this Natarajan's case, as pointed out by my hon. Leader, in answer to an interpellation, the Premier had stated himself that the boy while in jail developed illness. I am not able to find out the technical name. In answer to the question you have said that after admission into the jail he developed cellulitis. For fifteen days he was bad. It was only on the fifteenth day that he was admitted into the Penitentiary hospital. After five days of treatment he was sent out to the General Hospital. 'What is the point in selecting these people for the purpose?' the Premier asks, 'is it to embarrass the Government that sick persons are being selected?' I refer to it only so that the Hon. the Premier may not cloud the issue by these things. Let us face it honestly and frankly. You want to force Hindi down here. Some people do not like it. They express themselves strongly and you put them in jail. I do not object to it. You are perfectly within your right. I do not want to question the legality of the right. Why treat them as other convicts? Have we not been talking of political prisoners all along? The Hon. the Premier said that when it was their turn to go to jails, they never asked for any special favours or concessions, that they were prepared to take any consequences, and that they were subjected to all sorts of hardships. Then the Hon. the Premier was not in the Legislative Council; I happened to be. There was an agitation by my Hon. Friend the Premier's followers as regards their treatment in the jails—men who were in sympathy with him and who may not have come as Congressmen but who were identifying themselves with the Congress. As regards people being released before time, was not my friend Mr. Satyamurti released before time during our period? It was so even in the bureaucratic days with these people who go to the jail not for the ordinary penal code offences, but for something different. After all what is it for? It is for what amounts to a difference of opinion. Therefore they ought to be kept in a distinct and separate class. I will only say that if you want to persist in the course of sending these people to jail, do it with a certain amount of consideration."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I feel that as the treatment of the anti-Hindustani prisoners occupied an important place in the course of the debate to-day, I should deal with it first. The Leader of the Opposition referred to that

matter in his speech. I would like to give him the reports that we have received with regard to the anti-Hindustani prisoners. The average health of this type of prisoners admitted into the jails is very poor. Out of the 129 anti-Hindustani prisoners now in prison, 41 are of indifferent health and 3 of poor health due to poor physique and ability. A large number of them are suffering from scabies and also from other diseases due to vitamin deficiency—for instance, stomatitis, xerosis and dermatitis sicca. They are given the usual ordinary ' C ' class rice diet and as they are improving rapidly in health and gaining weight, no change in or addition to the jail diet is found necessary in all those cases. One hundred and seven out of the 127 prisoners were below their physical equivalent weight on admission, some being even 20 to 30 pounds less. As compared with the ordinary prisoners, the anti-Hindustani agitation prisoners on admission are much more ill-nourished and underfed; but the improvement in their health and weight is more marked after admission to jail than in the case of other prisoners. In order to say that this is the case, I would like to give hon. Members opposite the information gathered up to the third week of February of this year. Nearly 160 out of 300 prisoners have gained in weight. (A voice: ' 50 per cent! ') Therefore Sir, it will be seen in spite of all that has been said by hon. Gentlemen opposite—no doubt these unfortunate people owing to unfortunate circumstances are in prison and it cannot be helped—that the Government have done whatever is in their power to make the lot of these prisoners happy.

" With regard to classification, I can assure hon. Gentlemen opposite that the Government have done whatever they could, as far as my recollection goes. There were references made to women prisoners. I want to tell my hon. Friend, the Member representing Ramnad-Madura-Tanjore Indian Christian Constituency that most of them have been put into the ' B ' class, in spite of their not coming up to the qualifications laid down. I am told that the hon. Gentleman representing the Nattukottai Nagarathars raised that point. It is in reply to him as well that I say that most of these women have been put in ' B ' class; and if anybody is put in ' C ' class, it is due to the circumstances of the society from which they come. I want to tell hon. Gentlemen opposite that the classification rules have been so construed by the present Government as to give more facilities to prisoners who are in prison now under this anti-Hindustani agitation than was ever given by any previous Government. As an example, I would like to mention the case of Mr. Ramaswami Naicker himself. When he went to prison in the old days, the highest classification he had was ' B.' But he is now being put into ' A ' class as was acknowledged by the Leader of the Opposition to-day.

" The hon. Gentleman representing Madura-Ramnad-Tanjore Indian Christian Constituency raised the question of labour, especially in the Trichinopoly Jail. As the Leader of the House

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pointed out, it is very difficult to reply to specific points of this nature unless they had already been raised as a question or in a debate on this point."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Does not the Law Minister get information with regard to the treatment of these prisoners? "

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" General information I get, but not with regard to specific points. I know generally, Sir, what labour is being given. With all deference to your views, Sir, I want to mention that it is not possible always to find out the labour that is being done by the prisoners in these jails; and if you think that I could do so, I think I am not so extraordinarily retentive in memory as to carry these points in my head."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" When dealing with the Jails Demand is it not the Minister in charge of Jails expected to get this information? "

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Ordinary information, Sir, I have got and I am prepared to give. But specific points . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" There was a specific cut motion earlier in regard to the treatment of anti-Hindustani prisoners."

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" For instance, Sir, as to drawing water from 70 feet depth, I have no information, I must frankly say."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Have not the Government got information as to what sort of labour was being given to the anti-Hindi prisoners? "

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am prepared to give it; it is that some of the labour mentioned by the hon. Member as being done by the anti-Hindustani prisoners is not different from that of an ordinary prisoner of that class in that jail. No extra labour is being given to the prisoners at all."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" That is exactly what is asked for from the Government. The Opposition demand that they should be treated with greater leniency than the ordinary prisoners."

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" They are not put to all the labour . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" That means that task is not being extracted from them."

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" That is so, you put it correctly."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" As this is of some importance, I might mention a case that came to my notice. An allegation like what Sir Pannir Selvam referred to

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was made by a released prisoner at a meeting which he addressed immediately after release; and the case came to the notice of the Government on account of the speech that he made. It was found that the allegation was grossly false; no such task as has been alleged was given to the prisoner. As a matter of fact, we, who have been in prison, know that such persons cannot possibly be given these tasks."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, the Hon. the Minister for Law made it clear that the anti-Hindi prisoners are given the same labour as any other prisoner. It is only on your elaborate questioning that this answer was given."

(The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan was heard to remark that the Leader of the Opposition need not have wasted his breath in this matter.)

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I must request you, Sir, to note the words 'wasting the breath' used by the Hon. the Minister for Law. I would only ask you to have them withdrawn, Sir, if you consider them unparliamentary."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have not heard him, but if he has said so, he must withdraw."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I withdraw. What I said was that anti-Hindustani prisoners are being treated in a way that will help them, in the sense that they are not put to all the hard labour that the hon. Member talked of. My Leader himself gave an example of exaggerated notions in this particular case."

MR. SPEAKER:—"For the matter of that, what the Opposition want to impress upon the Government is that particular classes of work for which these people are unfit should not be given."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not a question of task. You are as much interested as hon. Members opposite."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Absolutely. Every hon. Member of this House must be interested in prisoners in the jail. Humanity demands it."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is why I am saying you are as much interested as hon. Members opposite."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The treatment in jail is a very important matter."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I admit that, Mr. Speaker. I am not casting any aspersions on anybody. As a matter of fact, what I am trying to point out is that we so give

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the labours to these prisoners that they will not be above what they are capable of doing."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a question of their capacity. It is the kind of labour that the Opposition want."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, I have answered it to a certain extent. I will not take this point any further.

"The question of food was raised by some of the hon. Members and they objected to the pudding form that is given. I have myself seen in Bellary prison the kind of pudding that is being given to the prisoners, and I think from the medical point of view it is not as bad as people think. The *kanji* is not extracted and so it has got more vitamins than the ordinary rice food eaten by the ordinary people in our country. The question of religious instruction was referred to by the gentleman representing the Vizagapatam-East Godavari Muslims; he also referred to the question of libraries in jails and the books not being up to the standard. I assure the hon. Member that I shall look into the matter; because, I think the matter of library is a very important thing and we should supply books that would be useful instead of the kind of books that the hon. gentleman described as being useless. I shall look into the matter and do what I can. I request the hon. Gentleman who moved the cut motion to withdraw it." 7 p.m.

As Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan who moved the cut motion was not in his place, it was deemed to have been withdrawn.

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It must be put to vote."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—"It may be put to vote and carried, if possible. I will ask that the question be put, because it seems under the rules, it shall be considered to have been withdrawn unless any member asks that the question on the motion be put."

The cut motion was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—POLICE.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I beg to move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,51,02,200 *under Demand XIII—Police.*'"

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I move—

> '*that the allotment of Rs.* 1,51,02,200 *for Police be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

[Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur] [21st March 1939

" The object of this reduction motion is to discuss the policy of the Government in the matter of the administration of the Police department.

" Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the House, but at the same time I would request the Hon. the Premier not to treat the suggestions that I am going to offer and the criticism that I may make as if they are made in any hostile spirit. The Police department has always remained a very ticklish department, whether it be under the Congress Government or under the pre-Congress Government. At no time, Sir, except on one occasion in the history of the last thirteen years has the Opposition succeeded in reducing the Police demand. Once five lakhs were reduced and they were restored by His Excellency the Governor. So, the Police department always exercised such an influence and such a control over the executive and the administration that it is very difficult to dislodge them, however much we might try.

" Now Sir, I only want to make a few observations with reference to particular points so that the Government may consider them and do what they can under the circumstances. Sir, I have been urging that there is scope for retrenchment in the Police department. The Hon. the Premier has been saying that there is no scope absolutely. But, Sir, one set of circumstanees existed and it has been replaced by another set of circumstances; and what is the justification for still continuing the retention of the Police force which was recruited as extra poliee some years ago? I beg to remind him that there was a very large force, if I may call it, which was recruited during the Civil Disobedience movement. The one particular thing which I would like to refer to on this occasion is the Presidency Reserve. The Hon. the Premier has made some researches into the question and he wrote to me that after examining and investigating into the matter he found it impossible to reduce it. The other day, Sir, when I was asking a supplementary question, the Hon. the Premier stated that it was not possible to reduce and that the example that was followed in other Provinces is not really true to facts. I do not want to contradict him on that point, because I have not ascertained from the Central Government or the United Provinces Government or the Bengal Government as to what they have done actually in regard to the matter. I submit, Sir, that the Presidency Reserve which was constituted to deal with the Civil Disobedience movement when the bureaucratic Government was in power, does not justify its retention any longer, and the excuse for its retention made by the Hon. the Premier is not convincing. There is of course one kind of agitation now going on, and that is the anti-Hindustani agitation and for that they require the Police; but my submission is that the ordinary Police that is functioning in

the Province must be more than adequate to deal with the anti-Hindustani agitation. There is no other agitation worth the attention of the Government or even worthy of being called an agitation. Even with regard to that agitation, I submit, there has been no single occasion on which the Presidency Reserve has been called into service and there has been no *lathi* charge and the present Government do not deal in *lathi* charges. In the absence of any such thing, there is no justification to retain the force which was recruited for the purpose of *lathi* charges only, and probably to disperse riots or unruly crowds. Even in such cases, there has been no occasion where this Reserve was employed or even as a matter of fact the local Police was called in to disperse a crowd by the use of force. These being the circumstances, Sir, I do not think there is any argument, in any event, against the abolition or getting rid of this Presidency Reserve.

" Sir, the next point I want to suggest to the Hon. the Premier is that there is scope, much scope, for reorganizing the Police department as a whole. At present there are several Police subdivisions which are in charge of Deputy Superintendents of Police, consisting of two circles and there are some subdivisions which consist of four circles. The instances of subdivisions which consist of four circles are, Tanjore, Mayavaram, Hosur, Cannanore and Malappuram; and those subdivisions which consist of two circles are one in Tirukkoyilur in my own district. I suggest that there is possibility of increasing the circles under these subdivisions with great economy to the Government themselves. Sir, in these places the question of crime does not arise, because crime is slowly diminishing and even the figures relating to the Police administration show that there is a steady decrease in crime.

" Sir, there is another aspect of the matter which I want the Hon. the Premier to attend to and that is the invidious distinction in the lower ranks of the service that is being maintained; of course it was once maintained with some ulterior purpose, but there is no reason to continue that distinction now without any purpose. I mean the distinction between the Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors. The Sergeants do much less of intelligent, or, for that matter, any physical work; whereas the Sub-Inspectors do much better work than the Sergeants, they get low pay which is hardly sufficient for them and that probably drives some of them to corrupt practices. The Sergeants are paid Rs. 225 to Rs. 275 and what is the task they are engaged in? They are not engaged in detecting crime and they are not engaged in prosecution work. Nothing of the kind. They are unfit for any type of work, except to stand at traffic posts and direct traffic. Even there, I think, that head constables are doing much better work than the Sergeants drawing Rs. 225 to Rs. 275. The distinction between the cadre of Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors is hardly justifiable,

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and it ought to be abolished. If need be, let them become Sub-Inspectors and let it be open to Anglo-Indians and other special interests, it does not matter. They were originally supposed to do work at traffic points, but later on the very department said that those people are not fit to stand in the hot sun all day, because they are persons recruited from Europe and that they must get some more concession and comfort; and so they do not even do duty at the traffic points. Mr. Speaker, if you had noted, you will have seen that at many of the points there is no Sergeant at all to control traffic; but all the same the distinction is kept and they are paid Rs. 225 to Rs. 275; whereas the poor head constable doing traffic duty gets only Rs. 50. So, Sir, there is enough scope for economy in that direction.

"Even with regard to this, Sir, there is another point I would like to urge. If you take the case of the Malabar Special Police which was considered to be and is still considered to be the most efficient Reserve Police in the Presidency, even that most efficient Reserve Police is not manned to-day by the European or Anglo-Indian Sergeants, but it is manned, managed and controlled by Indian Subadars, Jamadars and the like. If that is possible, I do not really see how there is any justification for the maintenance of this difference in cadre between the Indian Sub-Inspectors and the European Sergeants."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Only two minutes."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have got two or three more points and I am making suggestions for the Premier and that too in the interests of the Government and in the interests of saving money to the Government. I shall be very brief, Sir. Sir, in Sind the special class of Sergeants is being abolished and in Bombay they have already announced that Sergeants as a class will go, for there will be enough opportunities for them to serve as Sub-Inspectors. Sir, the prospects for Sub-Inspectors are very poor, but it does not matter whether they are called Sub-Inspectors or Sergeants.

"Now, Sir, there is another moot point and I want the Hon. the Premier to re-examine and re-investigate the question with reference to the superior cadre in the Police department, for instance, Deputy Inspectors-General in the Presidency. Originally, there were only two Deputy Inspectors-General of Police; subsequently, they were increased to five and then at a later stage the late Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar had to retrench the number because it was superfluous; but in the days of Sir Mahomed Usman when he was Home Member, the old number was brought back. Now, Sir, I seriously do not think that there is any need for five or six Deputy Inspectors-General. In other provinces they do not have so many as that and in this Province there is absolutely no need for them.

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" Sir, there is an additional argument. The districts of Ganjam and also Koraput Agency, where there was special work for the Police, have been handed over to the Orissa Government. On that account also there must be sufficient retrenchment here and our coffers must not have been taxed. I do not think that even after a portion of Ganjam and Koraput Agency have gone, the Police force should be the same. Now, Sir, two at least of these posts of Deputy Inspectors-General—I do not speak of the persons—should be retrenched. Then there would be a progressive saving to the Government.

" Then there is another point which I want to speak upon and that is a point of constitutional importance. The Lee Commission recommended that certain posts in the Indian Police Service should be reserved for Provincial Service officers. As a result of that recommendation nine posts were reserved for Provincial officers, and they were asked to be filled up as expeditiously as possible. The Lee Commission also said that in addition to the nine, there must be one post of an acting District Superintendent of Police reserved for the provincial officers. When Ganjam district and Koraput Agency were transferred to Orissa, one post of provincial officer was abolished and only one of the 42 reserved for the Imperial Service officers. Now, Sir, out of all these eight posts only seven are permanently filled up even though fifteen years have passed after the Lee Commission's recommendations. Among the methods of filling up the posts, the Lee Commission stated that when any permanent post is created it should go to the Provincial Service. That recommendation is not adhered to. I want the Hon. Minister to look into that and find why the claims of Provincial Service men are being ignored. For the new post of the liaison officer that the Government of India have created an Imperial Police officer was appointed. I do not see the reason why a Provincial Service officer should not have been appointed. Why should the claims of the Provincial officer be overlooked when only eight out of the nine posts have been filled up? But the post has not been filled up by the appointment of an Indian in the Madras cadre. One additional acting post on account of a leave vacancy has not been given to the Provincial cadre up till now. These injustices deserve to be brought to the notice of the Premier and I am only doing that.

" Then, Sir, there is one other matter and that is with regard to the efficiency of the Police Service. For some reason or other Mappillas were not to be recruited to the Police Service and that injustice still prevails. I want to say, Sir, that it is not a matter to be thought of in a light vein, because Mappillas are . . ."

* MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—" Sir, on a point of information. Is the hon. Member correct . . ."

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BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"If it is a point of information, I do not yield."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I treat it as a point of order also."

* Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"Is the hon. Member quite correct in stating that there is no recruitment of Mappillas to the Police Service? I know that there are Mappillas in the Police Service. The hon. Member is making a completely inaccurate statement."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, my friend, Mr. Langley sees some faces and takes them as Mappillas."

* MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"On a point of information, Sir. I can say that Mr. Basheer Ahmed is not quite correct. It may be that Mappillas are not recruited in sufficiently large numbers."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"You are corrected by Mr. Schamnad Sahib."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"All right, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member will close."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir, I am just closing."

Mr SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. Speaker, I remember the days when we had no Deputy Superintendents of Police at all and in those days, Police administration was perhaps more efficient than it is now. From what I know about the work of these Deputy Superintendents of Police, I think they are doing not much more than what a Post office is supposed to do, simply forwarding and submitting papers to the District Superintendent and sending them down to the Inspector of Police. They do not even take into their hands the investigation of cases; nor do they go as prosecuting officers. I do not think there is any necessity for such an intermediary authority between the District Superintendent of Police and the Inspector of Police. If the Government think that there is any need for such intermediaries then the Inspectors may go. To control the work of the Sub-Inspectors of Police, I think Inspectors can do better than the Deputy Superintendents of Police. But if the Government are of opinion that the Deputy Superintendent of Police can be better, then there is no necessity at all for the Inspector. One of these two cadres must be abolished; and if this is done, the Government will also

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see the saving effected as a result thereof. I do not think that the Government will fail to do it if they really think that there is no need for such superfluous posts as these. There is no need for so many Deputy Inspectors-General as pointed out by a previous speaker and therefore I do not want to say much upon that point.

" Of course, there is much complaint about the Police. But I think it is bound to be so, because the kind of work they do is such that it is not very pleasant and so they must come in for a certain amount of criticism. But the other point I wanted to speak about was the proper distribution of the Police force. There are certain things to be taken into consideration in distributing the force. I do not mean to say that a particular community should be in greater number than any other community. That is not the question now. But, what I say is in distributing the Police force there are some points to be taken into consideration. Men of the same place should not be posted there as Inspectors or Sub-Inspectors. As far as possible it must be avoided. Inspectors must be generally men of another district and Sub-Inspectors should not be men of the same taluk at least. And then, there are some other things also to be taken into consideration. There are sometimes misunderstandings between different communities and in such cases Police officers of the same community, belonging to only one of the parties to the misunderstanding or dispute, should not be put there. They will only aggravate matters. To inspire confidence among the different sections and the different parties it is quite essential that Inspectors belonging to the different communities and different places also must be posted there. When I raised this question last year, the Hon. the Premier was pleased to say that he would consider the matter. I think he is still considering. I received a letter from him which goes to show that he has spent some thought over the matter. I think he has not had sufficient time to set matters right. I hope hereafter at least he will see that these things are taken into consideration and whatever is necessary done at an early date."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, in dealing with this cut motion I only want to bring to the notice of this House one or two important points which I think deserve the consideration of the Hon. the Prime Minister. Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed has just now referred to the necessity for retrenchment. We on this side, when a popular Government came into office, expected that some desirable changes would take place in this department as it has taken place in other departments. But we do not see any attempt being made in any way to put down the expenditure, which I think is a reasonable plea on our side. We see that the same expenditure is asked for every year on the same old lines. It seems to have existed for a long time before

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Provincial Autonomy was thought of and there was some justification for such expenditure. The conditions were then different and the very outlook was different. But, now when we are on a new phase, as it were, of our national life, with popular Ministers carrying on the Government, I do not understand why there should be any kind of fear or mistaken notion on the part of this Government to think that they should spend the same amount of money which a previous bureaucratic Government was spending upon this department. I think this is a very important matter which ought to be properly answered by this Government. It looks as if that by asking the same expenditure to be sanctioned by this House, the present Government are also endorsing the policy of the previous Government, are also having the same outlook and are also pursuing the same ideals they had. I do not think there is any justification to say that this Government shares the same ideals with regard to this matter which a previous Government did. I think there is a great demand for retrenchment. Without any danger to the safety of the people, or the efficiency of the department a certain amount of retrenchment in this department might be effected. There are intermediary posts, slippery posts, the value whereof or the necessity of which nobody can explain correctly. For instance, take the Deputy Superintendent of Police. There are a large number of them; whatever may be the excuse for carrying on the same number of intermediary posts and keeping them in the same old level, whatever may be the justification for keeping them without reduction, I think the Government will have to give very good reason with regard to the number of Deputy Inspectors-General of Police. This point has already been touched upon by various speakers and I think the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police really are supernumerary. They are intermediary posts, highly paid, for which I think there is no justification. The Government should reduce the figure at least to an irreducible minimum. I am not quite sure how many they could have, but I am wondering what these Deputy Inspectors-General of Police are doing. I would very much like to know from the Hon. the Premier what they are doing for the efficiency of this department or for the proper administration of the department. Our Premier has said some time ago that the removal of these intermediate posts will result in untoward consequences, just as the removal of a portion from the human body will make the person feel its absence. I can tell the Hon. Premier that there are certain parts of the human system which if removed will not make the person feel its absence—that is the vermiform appendix of the body—to me such intermediary posts look like the appendix!

"With regard to efficiency, Sir, there is a feeling among the public of the City that the Crime Branch is thoroughly undermanned and should be strengthened, if it should work efficiently.

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I have absolutely nothing to say against the people who are in the department. They are excellent men. But what can they do if their number is small and their duties are numerous? I do not know how many Sub-Inspectors there are attached to the Crime department; whatever it is, they are not able to get on with their work efficiently. Detection of crime requires concentrated effort by all concerned, both officers and men. The number of men allotted to any particular station is not enough to cope with the number of cases reported. Detection of crime, therefore, suffers and the percentage of detection is low. The Government will have to see that this defect is remedied.

" Sir, of late there have been burglaries in the City. These burglars carry on their work with lightning speed. They burgle a number of houses in one part of the City and transfer their activities soon after to a different locality. They carry on a series of such successful attempts and haul up quite a large sum of money and valuables. In the outskirts of the city their activities are on the increase. Last year when this matter was referred to in this House and the instance of theft in an hon. Member's house was given, the Hon. the Premier remarked that the burglars are not respectors of persons. I almost fancy the burglar heard this remark and immediately turned his attention to the house of a Member of the Treasury Bench and subsequently to the house of the head of a Government department. What I mean to say is that burglaries are still going on. If the Police are not able to detect these frequent thefts reported at the Police stations, it will be difficult to say that the safety and the security of the people are properly looked after by the Police. I believe the safety of the people is also the concern of the Minister in charge of law and order. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to improve the state of affairs in this respect. I may suggest, Sir, that the system of patrol, which was in vogue a decade ago, may be revived especially in the outskirts of the City where the burglaries are more frequent. The old night patrol system might be resorted to again and policemen made to go their rounds in the nights. Under the patrol system I am speaking of, the policemen on their night duty would sign the books kept in the houses for this purpose in the various localities. In these nocturnal rounds of theirs they blow their whistles and warn people. This system had a salutary effect. I think this should be restored at least in the outskirts of the City for safeguarding the public.

" I have got one more point to make and that is concerning the C.I.D. I do not know if this Government have any really good work to be done by the C.I.D., because their work is what the Premier called ' spying.' Can it be that this Government look with favour on spying? I really wonder why any spying ought to be favoured by a popular Government like the previous Government. Probably the autocratic rulers of the past favoured

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this game of spying. I do not understand how a Government of the people, carried on by the people and for the people can stand in need of spying or spies, because there is no kind of subversive activity or sedition coming in its way. This is a very important matter, Sir. Though I think a certain amount of safeguarding is necessary and therefore there is some work for the C.I.D., I should like to know the policy of the Government with regard to the Criminal Intelligence Department and what they are going to do about it. I think the present Government have no justification for keeping this department in the same old strength. The Government themselves feel that it is going to wreck this Government. Do they want the C.I.D. therefore to look after it or to prevent the Government being wrecked? It is paradoxical that the policy of this Government should be in favour of keeping the C.I.D. in the same old level. I would like to know the policy of the Government with regard to this department. With these few words I support the cut motion."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, the first point that was taken was that the Presidency Reserves had been started for the purpose of meeting the Civil Disobedience and allied movements and that to-day, therefore, they were not necessary. I have had the advantage of examination of all these points during the last few months. It is possible to have many misconceptions about the Police administration. That is one conclusion I have arrived at. When a department like the Police is working a very great deal without the direct knowledge on the part of the generality of the people concerned, it is natural that many misconceptions should prevail. It is usually believed, for instance, that the Criminal Intelligence Department is concerned with nothing but political crime and was concerned with nothing but political crime, and that now that those who were formerly criminals have become the Government, there ought to be no necessity for the C.I.D., and there ought to be no necessity for a Presidency Reserve to pounce upon crowds sympathetic with Congress aims. All these are based upon misconception with regard to the actual work that is done by these various departments. It is possible that the normal work of the C.I.D. might be deflected and they might altogether be occupied with politics and that the *lathis* of policemen might be altogether kept on the heads or shoulders of politicians when there is a political upheaval or when there is need for such activity. But when those special circumstances are removed, the C.I.D. as well as the ordinary Police lapses back into its normal activities. We politicians might imagine that now that things have settled down in regard to politics there is no work for these policemen. As a matter of fact, the policemen were abnormally employed during the time that political troubles prevailed in the country. But when the political troubles have ceased, the policemen go back to normal

work. And there is plenty of normal work, let me assure hon. Members.

"It may appear to hon. Members that I have strangely changed the colour of my politics because I am now responsible for the Police. But that is not a correct statement. I have been very obstinate in many matters, as hon. Members know. I have not changed the colour of my views or the complexion of my politics merely because I am in office. But in some matters I must frankly tell what I have seen and what I have known and hon. Members should take it. For instance, if I do stick on to Prohibition even after becoming a Finance Minister, I must be trusted when I say something different in kind in regard to the Police. I make this claim that the Police are fully occupied even though there is no politics to attend to. The normal work of the people in the Criminal Intelligence Department is to look after organized crime—international crime. There are certain criminal gangs that are working throughout the country and they have got a much more organized machinery at their command than most people know. Now that in our Province as well as in other provinces the villages have been depleted of their property—no man with any fairly decent amount of property remains in the village—everybody who has anything to preserve comes to some part of Madras or some other big city like Madras—all criminals are concentrating now, let me tell hon. Members, in cities and towns and villages are fairly free from burglaries and thefts. Towns are now receiving the attention of these gangs. Because, as my Hon. Colleague tells me quite correctly, the thieves get nothing if they go to villages, they go to the towns. These have to be attended to and as there is a big intelligence working for them, a similar intelligence must also be organized on behalf of the State as against these gangs and these operators in crime. The C.I.D. should be normally engaged only with this work and when there is no politics they are normally engaged with this work.

"I might give an illustration to hon. Members. Recently there have been thefts in the Labour Minister's house, there have been thefts in the house of the Director of Industries and there have been thefts in the Public Health Minister's house. When thefts take place in the houses of prominent persons, they come to our notice; but there are many such cases in which we are not interested, as they do not concern our friends. But these crime operators have been discovered to be part of a big gang. Investigations and trials in courts will bring out these matters. But what I am now attempting to show is that there is a lot of work for the C.I.D. with regard to what is correctly called criminal intelligence. It is not correct to confuse criminal intelligence with detection of political crime and, to repeat what I said the

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other day in answer to a question. I may say that no reward has been given to a single policeman after we took office eighteen months ago for any work in connexion with political crime. But yet these people have been engaged in other kinds of investigation and other kinds of intelligence collection. Therefore, it is not right to say that the Criminal Intelligence people have no work. It is not possible for us to place on the table of the House all the kinds of work these people are doing, because that will tend to help the gangs in a manner in which hon. Members would feel that we should not provide help to these people. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'You have already explained the whole thing.') Is it? I have not told everything. I have not placed before you, for instance, how the police have to track the criminals; I have not told you how, when a man goes up a pipe-line and gets into somebody's room, he can be identified even though nobody saw him. These things we have not gone into in connexion with this matter. My point is that there is plenty of work for the Criminal Intelligence Department, and plenty of good useful work without which there will be more crime in this country and people in the City will continue to say, just as one hon. Member said, 'There is more crime in the City now. You have done nothing.'

" With regard to the Presidency Reserve, it is true that there
45 p.m. are no Congressmen to be beaten. But have we removed all violence from our Province? It would be invidious for me to give illustrations now; nay, it would be wrong for me to give illustrations now. It would defeat my own purpose of peace if I give any instances. So I won't say that such and such an act of violence took place at such and such a place. It would give a psychological start for the acts of violence. I am sorry to confess that there is still a lot of violence in the country though political conflicts have subsided. Unfortunately we have to confess it. I won't speak of my own Province; but what applies to one province applies to another province. Let us take Bengal; let us take the United Provinces. We had recently to meet our friends from all over India coming together at Tripuri. I know the pain with which incidents were related, and the conditions in the United Provinces were related by my colleagues. It is a very unfortunate situation. There is still a lot of violence. And so we cannot do away with the Presidency Reserve Police. What are they? They are a few people, a very small number of people kept at particular points in this Province to be called up wherever there is great disturbance or an occasion for more than normal amount of courage and force to be brought into play on the part of the Police. They are a few people, and they are provided also with conveyances, so that they can get across to places hundred and two hundred miles away, where there is a disturbance. Supposing there is a festival in a distant place, and on an occasion like that a disturbance takes place. We cannot simply say it

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is a misfortune sent from Heaven and keep quiet and take no action. We have to meet situations like that. Sometimes we have met the situation, and sometimes we have not met the situation and there has been a holocaust of crime. Last year in one of our districts there was arson, grievous hurt and murder to a considerable amount, which we could not really look upon doing nothing, if we have to govern.

" As I have repeated times without number, and to our shame, it must be confessed that still there is violence and there is need therefore for counter-violence on the part of the Government. We have not yet discovered the technique by which we can get over this violence without the use of counter-violence. We are seriously dreaming, imagining, and trying to organize on lines of non-violence; nor can we postpone the temporary solution till we find a permanent solution. We have to deal with it immediately. Like diseases we have to deal with inferior medicine till we get good medicine. That is the only apology I can give for the use of the Presidency Reserve and the Armed Police still. I may say that these people are not useless; it is not waste of public money. I may be given credit, Sir, for stringency in regard to use of money. I may be given credit in regard to the suggestion in these matters. Let me confess, I dare not dispense with the Presidency Reserve Police and Armed Police. There is no use for them in politics. Let nobody imagine that present-day politicians are dealt with by such people. It is only when a certain standard of behaviour is exhibited by people which could not be suppressed otherwise that these people are called. The moment we feel we can advise the Government to dispense with these people we shall try to do so, because it is their precious money that we are using for this purpose; and we know it fully well.

" Then with regard to establishment, especially the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police and the Superintendents of Police. It is easy to give advice such as has been done to-day. It is also easy on a superficial examination to believe that these things could be done, that we can dispense with the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, that we can dispense with the Superintendents of Police, the Deputy Superintendents of Police and so on; because once upon a time there was no Deputy Inspector-General of Police, the Superintendent of Police and the Deputy Superintendent of Police and so on. But hon. Members are not aware of the amount of work that has increased in modern times. I do not say the work is all useful; I do not say all the work that has been done by officials is very good for the country; but the work has increased rightly or wrongly. Petitions are sent. We cannot throw them into the waste-paper basket. Enquiries have to be made when complaints are made. Reports are received; appeals are made. I would abolish all appeals even as we abolished in

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litigation some portion of interest the other day. So also in litigation I will say if a case is pending for more than six months it shall close rightly or wrongly because we do not want, justice or no justice, any further prolongation. If I had my way I would say so. But people won't accept it so easily unless we educate them in that direction. The amount of work in all departments of Government has increased enormously. It may be unhealthy; but it has increased as a matter of fact; it has to be looked into.

"With this background we have to examine the situation. The Inspector-General of Police has 25,000 constables—I am referring to these figures roughly—to look after. And they are not concentrated in one place. They are distributed over a vast area, four or five in some places, twenty in some places, and they are distributed over all the 25 districts, and in each district over a vast area, in the rural and small urban areas. These would have to be looked after. Do hon. Members give me an assurance that all the 25,000 constables will do all their work properly? Hon. Members will be quick to tell, 'It is impossible; we can't trust these people to look after their work themselves.' Granting that premise, let us say each one of the 25,000 constables wants a head to look after him. It is not only the constabulary that is so defective; in every department of life in our country it is so. Unfortunately we have fallen so low that no man can work unless he is looked after by another. You cannot have your *toti* clean the street properly unless the *maistri* stands by him. We cannot have a teacher do his duties unless the headmaster is next to him and the Deputy Inspector of Schools is next to him. It is unfortunate that is the present state of things. If we arrive at a time when we can raise by education, not merely by literacy, the level of our country all over—if we raise by that education which amounts to cultural and political consciousness and patriotism and civic consciousness—then I can assure hon. Members that we can dispense with the Inspector-General of Police, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, the Superintendent of Police, the Inspectors of Police and the Sub-Inspectors of Police and all that, and we can have only the Government at the top, which should be quite enough. But it is not so to-day. This Inspector-General of Police has necessarily to look after the 25 districts with ceaseless vigilance; and how can one man do that unless the whole Province is divided into at least two or three big areas? Now these two or three big areas have to be put in charge of some officer of position and dignity, of responsibility and trustworthiness, and he should be left entirely to himself in most matters. He should not be merely a post-office as is imagined by some people. Therefore it is we have to get experienced men, trustworthy men, experienced men who have gone through the highest grades in office, to be put in charge of these two or three or four divisions

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of the whole department in our Province. Therefore it is that it is necessary to have a Deputy Inspector-General of Police.

"Then again, in the old days, there was the Superintendent of Police for the whole district. The question is asked: 'Why do you want subdivision officers?' Mr. Basheer Ahmed was specially strong on that point. Most hon. Members know the size of their district, the number of police stations therein, the number of constables therein and the way in which crime is committed within that district. As soon as a crime is committed, unless there is a man immediately to inquire there, the evidence is lost in our country. Even if it is available it is twisted. Therefore immediate and close attention is necessary wherever crime takes place. Now can we dispense with the Superintendent of Police, and leave it to the Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors of Police? The Superintendent of Police will have to be over them. I have examined carefully the actualities of the position and I have found it difficult to remove these people. But I do hope one day we can reach that situation when we can dispense with these people. But the remedy is not by retrenchment; the remedy is only by education; the remedy is by that education to which I referred, not merely literacy; it is not mere book education that I am referring to. We want to create character in our people, and we should create it from the bottom. As soon as an offence takes place, and if a man sees the offence being committed, will he aver without alteration or modification in court when he is called upon to speak on it? We must be able to bring up our people to that level. We want not only that, not merely honesty; we want also to create self-help and self-reliance. If a man comes to rob my house, my neighbour immediately must be ready to help me, instead of shutting up his door from inside and remaining inside till the thief leaves the village." (Laughter.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What do the Police do?"

*THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"You can abuse the Police. I can abuse you. That does not help, we are all of the same kind; the policeman comes from the same community from which you and I come. We are all of the same material. That is why I am referring to the bottom remedy. Therefore it is I say it should come from the bottom. It is therefore necessary, that we should live up to the level of self-reliance, of mutual help and mutual assistance on the spot to prevent crime; and when we *do* see the crime, expose it. Our country will reach that point—I have no doubt about it—as other countries have done. It will be then possible to have a cheap organization for looking after crime, for the prevention and detection of crime and investigation and prosecution of offences. To-day the Deputy Superintendent of Police forms an important supervisory step in the

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organization over the Sub-Inspectors. It is necessary. Most hon. Members might not be aware—but some could be aware—when a serious crime is committed, the matter has to be investigated by a superior officer and not merely by a Sub-Inspector; sometimes it has to be investigated by the Superintendent of Police and sometimes by the Deputy Superintendent of Police. There are certain crimes which are allotted for them for direct investigation. So they are not altogether useless as some people imagine. They are necessary. At the same time it is not as if I plead all-round for extravagant expenditure. I do not plead. I want all these men to serve; I want all these men to be engaged; I want them to be engaged on better terms than they are now—better terms from our point of view. They should be efficient, and they should be cheap also; because we are serving our country we should serve on lesser wages. That is the real position for which we should strive, not merely removal of officers and fighting for the remaining offices to be secured to one community or another, removing some of the officers and allowing things to go from bad to worse.

" Then, Sir, it has been said, when there is the popular Government in office why do you want any spying at all."

Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" You have already explained it." (Laughter.)

* The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I am very grateful to the hon. Member for giving that immediate indication that I have said something to the purpose. I do not wish to detain the House any longer. I do wish the cut motion is withdrawn and the main motion is accepted. I can give more figures and more data in answer to points raised if I had time to open up all the files here; but as I have been asked to reply a little before I anticipated, I have not been able to do so. I think I have said enough, and hon. Members would accept my assurance."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

IV.—STATEMENT *RE* BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

p.m. Mr. SPEAKER:—" Before adjourning the House I should tell hon. Members that numerous enquiries are daily made of me and of the Secretariat of the Madras Legislature as to the probable date up to which the present meeting will continue, the business other than financial business that will come up before it, and the probable date to which the Assembly will be adjourned at the conclusion of the present meeting. After consulting the Government I am in a position to state that the programme will be as follows:—

' The Voting of Demands for Grants, as hon. Members are aware, will conclude on the 30th March. The present

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idea is to continue the sittings even after the 30th March for the purpose of dealing with various items of official business of which either notice has already been given to members or notice will shortly be given. These items are:—

I. Bills.—(1) The Madras Entertainments Tax Bill as amended by the Select Committee appointed yesterday;

(2) The Madras Sales Tax Bill;

(3) The Madras Tobacco Bill;

(4) A Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards Acts (left over from the agenda of the 25th February 1939);

(5) A Bill to amend the Borstal Schools Act;

(6) A Bill to amend the Madras Children Act;

(7) A Bill to validate certain orders passed by Government restoring village officers removed for political activities; and

(8) A Bill to amend the Madras Maternity Benefit Act.

II. Resolutions.—Motions to amend certain rules in Schedule IV of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and also a motion for the constitution of a Public Accounts Committee for the year 1939–40.

'Some of the Bills in the above list may be passed at once, but others may be referred to Select Committees. In cases where the Bills are not passed at once but are only referred to Select Committees, there will be a further sitting for the consideration of the reports of the Select Committees on those Bills on the 20th April 1939 (Thursday).

'Regard being had to the nature of the business other than financial business that will come up before this meeting, it is expected that the Assembly will have to sit beyond the 30th March, till probably the 3rd April. The House will then be adjourned to the 20th April 1939 to consider the reports of Select Committees on the Bills in regard to which Select Committees may be appointed.'

"I hope that this statement will be helpful to members to arrange their programmes for April."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, we are grateful to you for an indication of the programme. It is usual that the March budget session will end in March and we were not ordinarily prepared for any further session. I would like to say only one thing and reserve another opportunity to make further representations before which we will

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certainly have a discussion with the Hon. the Leader of the House. We should have been very glad if the Hon. the Leader of the House had consulted the different groups in this House about the extra work beyond the Budget, but that has not been done so far. It would have been very nice if the Hon. the Leader of the House had taken us into confidence and consulted our convenience in view of the fact that there is going to be some more business beyond the normal business of the Budget session. However, as we read an announcement in the newspapers about the programme of business which you have just now announced to-day, we had some consultation about this with some of the members of the Opposition, but we have no definite suggestions to put forward to the Hon. the Leader of the House as we thought he should probably ask us about this. Now that you have announced a programme—we are not probably meeting to-morrow but only the day after to-morrow—we will all meet the Leader of the House and make certain representations. I do not want to say anything more about it for the present. That is the only thing I wanted to say now."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m., on Thursday, 23rd March 1939.

[Vide answer to the starred question No. 976 asked by Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 21st March 1939, page 427 supra.]

Number of handlooms in the Madras Presidency in the year 1934–35.

District.	Cotton.	Durry.	Silk.	Art. silk.	Cumbly.	Coir.	Kora.	Total.
Vizagapatam	15,698	80	25	.	..	..	..	15,803
East Godavari Agency ..	127	2	..	..	..	..	38	167
East Godavari Plains ..	11,557	30	1,183	70	..	..	..	12,850
West Godavari	4,543	..	4	..	86	..	..	4,633
Kistna	5,559	.	130	2	189	10	2	5,892
Guntur	16,907	15	2	2,877	83	2	56	20,002
Nellore	11,617	..	11	..	6	15	42	11,691
Cuddapah	10,350	..	15	1,440	1	..	92	11,898
Kurnool	9,714	633	52	1,965	295	..	27	12,686
Bellary	8,467	2,017	286	1,870	860	..	..	13,500
Anantapur	6,517	87	1,966	385	1,671	12	49	10,687
Madras	1,470	..	88	233	..	..	..	1,791
Chingleput	13,443	124	2,755	63	37	91	87	16,600
Chittoor	6,337	656	47	522	223	29	39	7,853
North Arcot	14,592	1,132	2,371	3,949	340	4	946	23,334
Salem	28,694	865	1,951	3,865	596	5	564	36,540
Coimbatore	18,854	562	708	2,189	338	..	764	23,415
South Arcot	6,765	108	3,558	346	58	2	191	11,008
Tanjore	3,240	115	4,732	635	..	2	1,437	10,161
Trichinopoly	4,591	1,040	1,009	752	231	..	784	8,407
Madura	5,962	392	50	1,007	94	..	217	7,722
Ramnad	13,434	..	1,124	3,599	..	..	10	18,167
Tinnevelly	14,301	3	1,133	400	..	..	1,176	17,013
Malabar	9,972	26	31	21	72	330	101	10,553
South Kanara	2,576	..	5	5	..	..	..	2,586
Total ..	245,337	7,887	23,236	26,195	5,180	502	6,622	314,959

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 23rd March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Employees in the various departments of Government with no provision against retirement and superannuation.

* 981 [a] *Q.*—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number and categories of employees in the various departments of the Government who have no provision of any kind against retirement and superannuation?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The general position is that the following classes of employees are not eligible for pension and have no contributory provident funds intended for their benefit:—

'Copyists and examiners employed in the Revenue department; copyists in the Judicial department; members of the Public Works department who are borne on work-charged establishments; servants paid from contingencies in all departments; purely temporary establishments in certain departments, e.g., Labour, Co-operative, Survey, Settlement and Public Works departments, and persons holding certain isolated appointments which are specifically declared to be non-pensionable. Many of the subordinates (generally those on pay exceeding Rs. 20 a month) can, however, contribute to the General Provident Fund and subordinates holding temporary posts in the Survey, Settlement and Co-operative departments can count temporary service followed without interruption by qualifying service towards pension.'

"Further detailed information regarding the categories of such employees and the number in each category cannot be got without further reference to various departments."

[a] The member was absent; the question was answered with the consent of the Speaker.

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I ask whether the copyists especially the Judicial copyists have made representations to th Government that they have been working for a long time and tha they should have pension?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Yes, th have made representations."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"In view of the fact that tl Government are now inclined to press private employers to pr vide not only for unemployment benefit but also for retirement an superannuation for all their employees, manual and otherwise, wi they consider the desirability of extending this sort of arrang ment to all their employees whether temporary or otherwise?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"There every reason to consider this case, Sir, but there are al many difficulties in view of the nature of the posts and tl temporary character of the posts. The Government are tr ing to do everything that is possible and the suggestion the hon. Member will be taken into account. Though mo than once this matter has already been gone into, the matt will again be considered and anything that is possible wi be done."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask fc how long representations have been made by these copyists for th provision of pension or provident fund?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"They hav been making representations for a long time, Sir, but th is a bad time to start it once again."

Representations to the Central Government regarding exchange ratio and their reply, if any.

* 982 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prim Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether this Government made any representations t the Central Government in respect of the exchange ratio;

(b) if so, what the nature of those representations was; an

(c) whether the Government have received any reply?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"(a) & (b) The Government made a representation to the Central Gov ernment to the effect that the existing exchange value of th rupee in terms of sterling was too high and that a reductio in the exchange ratio would be helpful to the agricultur and industries of this Presidency.

"(c) The Government have not received a reply from the Central Government, but the Central Government have stated

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in their Press Communiqué, dated 16th December 1938, that they do not intend to allow the present exchange value of the rupee to be lowered."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister when the last representation was made?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Very recently, Sir. If the exact date is wanted I will have to look into the file. It is not an old affair. It is recent."

Preparation of statistics for the formation of linguistic provinces.

* 983 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether this Government prepared any statistics that may be required for the consideration of the establishment of linguistic provinces regarding which a resolution was passed by the House last year?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The answer is in the negative."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" Will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of compiling such statistics?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The question was put in the other House, Sir, and certain figures were gathered and placed on the table of the House. But there is an intrinsic difficulty in this matter which we cannot get over and no figures which are even approximately correct can be compiled. Even if this is undertaken, it will involve labour which the Government do not feel will be justifiable. Items and charges such as the cost of the headquarters establishment including the Secretariat, the High Court, the central offices, cost of stationery and printing, loans service charges, and charges in England cannot be allocated for the districts in question. Then again with a view to facilitate examination, the Finance Department considered in consultation with the Accountant-General the question of incorporating in the budget the figures on a district basis, but the task was stupendous and we have dropped the matter."

Scheme, if any, for colonizing certain Agency parts in East Godavari.

* 984 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have got any scheme for colonizing certain Agency parts in East Godavari; and

(*b*) if so, what that scheme is?

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) & (b) The Government have under consideration a general scheme for the colonisation of substantial blocks of land. No special scheme in regard to the agency tracts alone is under consideration. The details of the scheme have not yet been fully worked out."

Statistics regarding the extent of cultivated area and the rates of assessment in the ryotwari and estate portions of the Bhadrachalam taluk.

*985 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total area of the Bhadrachalam taluk;

(b) the extent of cultivated area;

(c) the extent which is included in the estates belonging to inferior and superior proprietors;

(d) the rates of assessment in areas under Government; and

(e) the rates of assessment for lands under the control of proprietors?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) The total area is 911 square miles.

" (b) & (c) The Government have called for a report.

" (d) Except for certain lands which bear special rates of assessment, dry and manavari lands in the Government areas of the taluk are assessed at 5 annas and 10 annas an acre, respectively. In the case of lands irrigated from Government irrigation sources, water-rate is charged at Rs. 3–2–0 an acre in addition to the dry assessment.

" (e) The assessment of rent and its enhancement in respect of lands under the control of the proprietors are left to their discretion. The report received in connexion with the enquiry of the Estates Land Act Committee shows that the rates of rent prevailing in the Bhadrachalam Superior Proprietary Estates were as follows:—

" Dry land—From 8 annas to Rs. 3 an acre. In a few special cases, the rate ranged up to Rs. 6 an acre.

" Manavari land—From 12 annas to Rs. 1–8–0 an acre.

" Wet land—From Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 an acre."

Extent of cultivable areas in Chodavaram division, East Godavari

*986 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are extensive areas fit for cultivation in Chodavaram division, East Godavari; and

(*b*) what that extent is?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have called for a report."

Purchase of aeroplanes for Government use.

* 987 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have any aeroplanes of their own; and

(*b*) if not, whether they propose to purchase any for their use?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) The Government have no intention at present of purchasing any aeroplanes for their use."

MR. G. H. HODGSON:—" In view of the importance of encouraging civil aviation in this Province, may I ask whether the Government will not consider the purchase of at least one aeroplane for the use at any rate of the Ministers? "

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" At present we cannot think of any work which will necessitate a journey within the Madras Presidency by aeroplane."

Water-falls in the Andhra Desa utilized for the generation of electricity.

* 988 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are water-falls in Andhra districts where electricity is generated; and

(*b*) if so, where these are?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative."

Measures for the prevention of medical practitioners from foreign countries setting up practice in Madras.

* 989 *Q.*—SRI P. S. SRINIVASA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of medical practitioners who belong to foreign countries and who have settled in Madras as private medical practitioners during the last ten years;

(*b*) how many of them are British subjects;

(c) whether the Government are aware that there is a likelihood of more foreigners, especially Germans and Jews, settling in this part of the country in the immediate future; and

(d) whether the Government propose to take any preventive measures to stop this influx in view of the prevailing unemployment and unhealthy competition existing among the medical practitioners in Madras?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) & (b) The Government have no information but they have called for it.

" (c) & (d) This Government are aware of the likelihood of an attempted influx of foreign immigrants and have already communicated their general views on the subject to the Government of India, within whose purview the matter falls."

Running of transport services by district boards in particular lines.

* 990 Q.—SRI V. BHUVARAHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether the district boards are given monopoly for conducting bus service themselves in particular lines; and

(b) if so, whether the Government intend that district boards should take over the buses at market price from such of those bus owners as are affected by the monopoly?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) The Government are prepared to consider granting such monopolies to district boards, when they are satisfied that the service will be efficiently run.

" (b) This is a matter to be settled between the district boards and the owners of the buses concerned."

Appointing authority and the term of office of the Sheriff of Madras and supply of livery to him.

* 991 Q.—SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) who now appoints the Sheriff of Madras and for what term he is appointed;

(b) whether any livery is supplied to every new appointee;

(c) if so, who supplies the livery and at what cost; and

(d) what becomes of the livery at the close of the term of office of the appointee?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) The Sheriff of Madras is now appointed by the Provincial Government and the incumbent holds office for one year from the 20th December of each year.

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"(*b*) The office of the Sheriff of Madras is an honorary one and the Government do not supply any livery to the person appointed to it.

"(*c*) & (*d*) In view of the answer to clause (*b*), the questions do not arise."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Sheriff is not one of the officers of the Government?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"In one sense he is and in another sense he is not."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In which sense is he not a Government officer?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If the hon. Member will put down a specific question, I will then give the answer he requires."

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"May I ask the Government whether this is not one of those ancient survivals which might very well be done away with entirely?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am grateful to the hon. Member representing planters for this information and I shall take his advice into consideration."

Amount withheld from grants to district boards on account of the pay of health officers employed under them.

* 992 *Q.*—SRI A. PL. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the actual average cost per annum of a Health Officer employed under a district board;

(*b*) whether in G.O. No. 1096, L. & M., dated 21st June 1922, this cost was fixed at Rs. 7,560 for each district board and the grant payable to each district board was reduced by this amount; and

(*c*) whether the actual average cost is not less than the amount of grant set off towards this expenditure?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) The existing annual average cost of a First-class Health Officer, together with leave salary and pensionary contribution will vary according to the scale of pay applicable to the officer as follows:—

	RS.
(i) Old scale of pay (Rs. 250—20—450—E.B. 25—600)	6,622
(ii) Existing revised scale of pay (Rs. 220—30/2—340—40/2—580)	5,998
(iii) New revised scale of pay (Rs. 200—25/2—375—30/2—465)	4,972

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"(b) & (c) The total grant originally given in aid of general resources to the various district boards (viz., Rs. 17·04 lakhs) was reduced by Rs. 1·74 lakhs representing the total average cost of maintaining the service of Health Officers and the reduced amount, viz., Rs. 15·30 lakhs, was distributed among the district boards in the same proportion as the original general resources grant was distributed, i.e., each district board got $\frac{15 \cdot 30}{17 \cdot 04}$ of the sum it originally received. The total reduction of the grant made in 1922 represents the cost of 23 District Health Officers, but this number has now been increased to 27. This means that though the actual average cost of these officers is less than the figure adopted in 1922, the Government are incurring further expenditure on account of the additional officers since employed."

Lack of accommodation in the Mental Hospital, Madras, for the treatment of cases of criminal insanity.

* 993 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that for want of accommodation in the Mental Hospital, Madras, cases of criminal insanity have been sent to jails where there is no satisfactory arrangement for treatment?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The answer is the negative."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister for Public Health has gathered the necessary information from the Hon. Minister in charge of jails?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have given the information available with the Government."

Extension of the area of the Agricultural farm at Samalkot, East Godavari.

* 994 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to extend the area of the Agricultural farm at Samalkot, East Godavari;

(b) what the nature of the proposal is; and

(c) at what stage the proposal is at present?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a) There is no such proposal before the Government.

"(b) & (c) Do not arise."

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Condition of coolies employed in Government Agricultural farms.

* 995 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the coolies working in the Government Agricultural farms have made representations to the Government regarding their status, pension and holidays;

(*b*) whether Government have considered these representations; and

(*c*) what the result is?

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) A petition was received from the workers in the Hosur Cattle Farm asking for, among other things, certain privileges in respect of leave and provident fund.

" (*b*) The representations were duly considered.

" (*c*) They are already enjoying sufficient leave and the Government could not grant their request for the institution of a provident fund for financial reasons."

Proposal to start a cattle-breeding station in the Circars.

* 996 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any cattle-breeding station in the Circars;

(*b*) if not, whether the Government have any proposals to start one; and

(*c*) if so, when and where?

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative. Work on a small scale is being done at the Lam station in Guntur.

" (*b*) There are also proposals pending with the Government.

" (*c*) At Prattur and Lam in the Guntur district. The new stations will be opened as soon as funds permit."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether they will be opened next year? "

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" I have already stated that if funds permit the matter will be considered by the Government."

Manufacture of sugar from unfermented toddy as a cottage industry.

* 997 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the manufacture of sugar from unfermented toddy is being carried on anywhere in this Province as a cottage industry?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"So far as the Government are aware, nowhere in this Province is sugar manufactured direct from unfermented toddy on a cottage industry basis."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know from the Parliamentary Secretary whether the Government are trying to introduce the system in this Province?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"The Government will surely introduce it, if it is found useful."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Have the Government found out whether it is useful or not?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"Notice, Sir."

Proposal for starting and developing ericulture in the Ceded districts.

* 998 *Q.*—SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether any steps are being taken by the Government to start and develop ericulture in the Ceded districts and find a market for the goods that may be manufactured?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"Attention is being paid to the development of ericulture in Bellary and Anantapur districts where a demonstrator has been specially deputed for this purpose since 1931. Though eri cocoons have been raised successfully it has not been found possible to find a remunerative market for them. The agriculturists have not taken up to eri spinning. Steps are, however, being taken to get eri cocoons spun into yarn by the Mysore Waste Silk Spinning Company and if the trials disclose that eri silk yarn could be produced at a competitive price, arrangements will be made to collect and sell the cocoons to the mills."

Production of high-class furniture in the Government Industrial School, Bellary.

* 999 *Q.*—SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government Industrial School at Bellary is producing in the carpentry section only ordinary type of furniture for school and office equipment; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to produce furniture of the type produced in the Government School of Arts and Crafts, Madras?

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SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) If there is sufficient demand for such furniture, designs prepared by the staff of the School of Arts and Crafts will be supplied to the school."

Inclusion of certain structures in Sri Ekambareswaraswami temple at Conjeeveram under protected monuments.

* 1000 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Administration Reports and Public Information be pleased to state with respect to starred question No. 152 answered on 5th March 1938—

(a) whether the question of the Pallavagopuram and thousand-pillared mantapam of Sri Ekambareswaraswami temple at Conjeeveram being declared as protected monuments has been considered by the Government; and

(b) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The question was dropped as the Superintendent, Archæological Survey of India, Southern Circle, reported that these monuments were not archæologically important and that their preservation would entail very large expenditure."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government are going to reconsider their decision and protect these important monuments? "

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—" I have said Sir, that these monuments are not important and that it would be waste of money to preserve them."

Proposal to exempt cycles below 18 *inches height from licence fee.*

* 1001 Q.—SRI V. BHUVARAHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether cycles below a particular height are exempted from licence fee;

(b) if so, up to what height licences are not required; and

(c) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to exempt cycles below 18 inches from licence fee as they are used by children only?

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SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) There is no provision in the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, for exempting cycles from tax with reference to their height.

"(b) & (c) Do not arise."

Grievances of the ex-taluk board employees in regard to their pay.

* 1002 Q.—SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether memoranda were submitted to the Government by ex-taluk board employees from various districts on the question of treating the differences in their old pay and the new scale as personal allowance;

(b) whether the district boards concerned have passed resolutions recommending the same; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Yes, with a few exceptions.

" (c) The matter is under consideration."

Recognition of the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union by the Education department.

* 1003 Q.—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any rule or order of the Government that a teacher cannot be the president of an elementary teachers' union;

(b) whether there is any rule or order that every teachers' union in the Presidency should be recognized by the department of the Government;

(c) the number of teachers' unions and guilds in this Presidency and the number of those recognized by the department; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union requested the Director of Public Instruction for the recognition of the Union and, if so, what was done by the Director in the matter?

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THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (a) There is no such rule or order.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) The orders of Government regarding the recognition of teachers' unions were issued only recently. The information required is not yet available.

" (d) Before the issue of the orders referred to in the answer to clause (c) the Union was informed by the Director of Public Instruction that there was no provision for its recognition."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they are aware of the fact that the President, Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union, was removed from service by the management for the simple reason that the Union was not a recognized one?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" The information that the Government have received is not so simple as the hon. Member thinks."

Eligibility of the president of a teachers' union to hold a teacher's post in any aided or departmental school.

* 1004 Q.—SRI A. CHANDOO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union is a registered one;

(b) whether the Union has been recognized; if not, why not; and

(c) whether there is any restriction for the president of a teachers' union from holding the post of a teacher in any aided or departmental school?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) No. Rules for the recognition of teachers' unions were issued only recently and there has not been time yet to consider the recognition of this Union.

" (c) There is no objection to a teacher being the president of a recognized union."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, the reason why the President of the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union was removed by the management if there is no objection to a teacher being the president of the union?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" There must have been various reasons for sending him away from the school."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, the source of the reasons that the Government have received?"

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THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" *The information is confidential.*"

SRI E. KANNAN:—" May I know whether all the reasons are mentioned in the order of the management removing the president from service?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" Everything cannot be put in black and white, Sir."

Extension of the fee concessions to the Kolaries and Maniyanies of South Kanara.

* 1005 *Q.*—SRI K. R. KARANT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether two communities of Kolaries and Maniyanies in the South Kanara district are not treated as backward for fee concessions under the Madras Educational Rules; and

(*b*) whether Government propose to include them also as backward communities for the benefit of these concessions?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) The communities are not treated as 'backward.'

" (*b*) The matter is under consideration."

Death of an anti-Hindi prisoner in the General Hospital, Madras.

* 1006 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the cause of the death, on Saturday last, of Mr. Thalamuthu Nadar, an anti-Hindi prisoner, in the General Hospital, Madras, was;

(*b*) whether his relatives were informed of his condition at the time he was removed to the hospital;

(*c*) what sort of medical aid was rendered to him;

(*d*) what his illness was due to;

(*e*) whether any complaint was made to the authorities by or on behalf of anti-Hindi prisoners about the insanitary condition of the Penitentiary; and

(*f*) whether the Government will take steps to remedy the lack of sanitary amenities in the Penitentiary?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The cause of the death was amœbic dysentery.

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" (b) The answer is in the affirmative. His father was informed of his illness first by letter and of his dangerous state in the General Hospital by telegram. So also his death.

" (c) The best possible medical aid was rendered first in the jail hospital and then in the General Hospital, Madras. The prisoner was of poor physique. He was at the time of admission 15 lb. below his physical equivalent, emaciated and anæmic. He was classified under II M (indifferent health and medium labour). He was improving slowly but steadily after admission into jail. He gained 4 lb. in three weeks. He complained of frequent watery motions and abdominal pain on 6th March 1939 and was immediately removed to the jail hospital for treatment. In the evening there was some mucus and blood; pulse 88; respiration 24; temperature normal. He had in all ten motions that day. His general condition was satisfactory. Dysentery was not of a severe type at its onset and there was nothing to indicate that it would take an acute turn. Probably his power of resistance was very low. On 9th March 1939 his condition was very satisfactory. The patient himself stated that he was feeling much better and asked to be allowed to walk to the latrine instead of using the bed-pan, but he was not allowed to do so. He had only four motions. It was only on 10th March 1939 that his condition took a sudden turn for the worse and he had several motions. He was immediately transferred to the General Hospital, Madras, as an in-patient. Motion was examined in the Penitentiary Hospital microscopically and in the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, microscopically and culturally with negative results.

" He was treated and nursed most carefully in the General Hospital but unfortunately without success.

" (d) The illness was due to amœbic dysentery, the infection of which was probably contracted before his admission to the jail.

" (e) The answer is in the negative.

" (f) The question does not arise. The Director of Public Health has visited the Penitentiary and found nothing wrong from the sanitary point of view. The latrines and the kitchen and the food and the hospital have been reported on very satisfactorily."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know from the Hon. the Premier, whether any of the leaders of the anti-Hindi movement took any interest in this boy after he fell ill? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The question itself indicates that they did not take great interest."

SRI T. S. CHOKKALINGAM PILLAI:—" Will the Government be pleased to invite some of the members from the Opposition to the Penitentiary for a short stay, as Government guests, to study the sanitary conditions there? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I do not think, Sir, that question arises."

RAO BAHADUR SIR A. T. PANNIR SELVAM:—" May I know, Sir, when intimation was sent to the parents of this boy? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I stated, Sir, the first intimation of his illness was on the 6th March 1939, and he was immediately removed to the jail hospital, and he was again removed to the General Hospital on the 10th March. The report is that a letter was sent to his father first and then again a telegram that his condition was found to be dangerous. It must have been between the 6th and the 10th; I cannot give the exact date."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is a fact that Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chettiyar, who is the most influential Provincial Visitor of Jails, never complained about the insanitary condition of the Penitentiary? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I do not attach much value to Mr. Narayanaswami Chettiyar's report in a matter of this kind; but I have already given the Director of Public Health's report."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, in view of the few cases that happened recently where some of the prisoners fell ill and had to be removed to the General Hospital for further treatment, may I know whether the Government will be prepared to examine whether the medical requirements in the hospital are satisfactory and are sufficient to deal with a situation of the character that has been brought to our notice? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, it is desirable that the matter should be made quite clear, because the manner in which suggestions are embedded in questions is such that much misconception might arise. Hon. Members may not know, all of them, what amœbic dysentery is. It may be taken for granted from modern scientific knowledge, that the incubation period of this disease is from three weeks to three months; and this young man took ill in less than the minimum period of incubation for this disease. Medical opinion is clear that the infection was brought by the man from outside when he came into the prison, taking into account the history of the germ that is responsible for amœbic dysentery.

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"As regards the sanitary conditions, Sir, when there is a population, such as we know there is in the Penitentiary—it is not a high figure at all that some persons fall ill. But if a particular class of prisoners fall ill, the causes must be discovered outside the Penitentiary and not in the Penitentiary itself. These young men who have gone there go there for a very short time, and if they get ill within that period, the fault is not that of the Penitentiary at all. And I may say that the Madras Penitentiary enjoys, though there are no flush-out latrines, a much higher degree of sanitation than many of our houses."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am afraid, Sir, that I have not made myself clear. My desire is to know whether the medical arrangements in the jail hospital are not sufficient to prevent the need for taking the prisoners to the General Hospital for further treatment?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is a matter, Sir, for administrative judgment. When the Penitentiary jail is so near to a first-class hospital, like the General Hospital, it is inadvisable to maintain a first-class hospital inside the prison. There is enough accommodation, enough equipment and enough medical attention in that hospital for all practical purposes; and when there is any case of an important kind, that case can easily be removed to the General Hospital, where such cases receive the very best attention. It would be wrong to create an unnecessary difficulty in giving the benefit of the General Hospital to prisoners in a dangerous condition in a jail which is so near the General Hospital."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what the medical report regarding this particular person was, on the day of his admission into the Penitentiary?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I practically incorporated in the answer the report that is referred to by the hon. Member; but in order to clear the matter, I shall read it again for the benefit of the Members. The prisoner was admitted on the 13th February 1939. The prisoner was, on the date of admission into the Penitentiary, of poor physique. He was 15 lb. below his physical equivalent, emaciated and anæmic. He was classified under II M (indifferent health and medium labour). He was improving in health and increasing in weight; he gained 4 lb. weight in three weeks. Then, on the 6th March, he fell ill and he was admitted into the jail hospital. He complained of frequent watery motions and abdominal pain and was immediately removed to the jail hospital. I have already read the report. His general condition was then satisfactory. On the 7th March,

motion was examined under microscope, with negative result. Then again, on the 8th March, he had five motions and abdominal pain; tenderness decreased; pulse 88, respiration 24—which was a good thing; temperature normal; he felt weak; otherwise, his general condition was satisfactory. Then on the 9th March, he had only four motions; temperature normal; pulse 88; respiration 24; general condition good. Then on the 10th March, in the morning the prisoner was feeling very weak; temperature normal, pulse 100; respiration 24. He had ten motions the previous night and ten in the morning, thus having twenty motions. His condition was found to be bad and he was removed to the General Hospital. I may say that the report of the General Hospital is that every possible attention was given by doctors and nurses, but without success."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the fact that he was not suffering from this particular disease on 13th February 1939, may I take it, Sir, that he contracted this disease after coming into jail? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I think I have already made it clear that he was having the infection at the time he came into jail. It is well-known that the incubation period of amœbic dysentery is from three weeks to three months. He was admitted on the 13th February and he first complained of the disease on the 6th March. The intervening period is smaller than the minimum period for incubation of amœbic dysentery, so that it is plain that the infection must have taken place before he got into the jail."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it correct to say that he contracted the disease prior to his admission when, after his admission, he improved in health and gained in weight? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It is quite possible that the man may have infection of amœbic dysentery and the infection may be incubating but the general health may well improve under conditions like that. There is no inconsistency."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact that there were dysentery cases in the Penitentiary? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Dysentery is common in our country and there were a few cases in the Penitentiary also."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not possible, Sir, that the disease might have been contracted after his admission into the Penitentiary? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I think I had better give the exact words of the Lieutenant-Colonel who can speak with some authority on the subject. 'I have the honour to report that the deceased person's illness was amœbic dysentery. The incubation period, that is the period between infection and the appearance of symptoms, is from three weeks to three months. He was admitted on the evening of the 13th February and the symptoms appeared on 4th March 1939, taking his own statement that he had some motions a day or two before he reported about the motions. The period was only eighteen days, that is less than the minimum period of incubation for this disease. The fact that there has not been a single case of amœbic dysentery during the last four months shows that the infection was not from the jail food or water.' All this substantially goes to show that the person was infected with dysentery before his admission into jail and the symptoms appeared some days after."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the Hon. Minister for Public Health want to make any statement with regard to the sanitary condition of the Penitentiary?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not quite understand what is wanted of me."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the number of questions that have been put regarding the sanitary condition of the Penitentiary, if the Hon. Minister for Public Health wants to make a statement with regard to it, he may do so." (Laughter.)

Eviction of the Hindu families settled down in Gugai Muslim burial ground in Salem.

* 1007 *Q.*—K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a number of Hindu families have settled down in Gugai Muslim burial ground in Salem;

(*b*) the date on which the Muslim public of Salem first protested against this settlement;

(*c*) whether a civil court has passed orders for eviction of these Hindu families;

(*d*) if the answer to clause (*c*) be in the affirmative the date of the passing of such orders;

(*e*) the reasons why the orders passed by the civil court have not been carried out as yet; and

(*f*) whether the last Government refused and the present Government have sanctioned an extension of time for the eviction of these families; if so, for what reasons?

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) Many years ago, a number of Hindus and some Mussalmans built some houses on the ground referred to.

" (*b*) Sometime in 1933 as far as information is readily available.

" (*c*), (*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) In June 1933, the Collector of Salem ordered the eviction of the encroachers. In September 1933, the Board of Revenue gave the encroachers three months' time in which to vacate. The encroachers filed a suit in the Court of the Subordinate Judge, Salem, in 1934, and another in the District Munsif's Court, Salem, in 1936, contesting the Collector's power to order eviction. Eviction had to be stayed pending the disposal of these suits. The first suit was dismissed in September 1935 and the second in September 1938. On a representation from the encroachers in September 1938, the Government requested the Collector to arrange with the Municipal Council for the provision of house-sites elsewhere in the town on favourable terms and allowed the encroachers time to vacate until about the end of February 1939. Ten out of the 21 encroachers have vacated and the remaining persons have been given further time until 18th April 1939. The reasons for these concessions are poverty and long possession."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government or the party concerned is prepared to contribute anything towards the cost of settling them elsewhere? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" No, Sir."

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Will the Government be pleased to state how long it is since the Hindu families settled down in the burial-ground? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" There has been some confusion about this matter. Some of these persons entered upon the land under a lease and believing that the leases would become perpetual, they constructed buildings but at the end of the term of the lease, they were called upon to vacate and they found it very difficult to vacate when the notice was served upon them. If more information is wanted, I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a definite question."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND XIV—ELECTRICITY.

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 22,14,100 *under Demand XIV—Electricity.*'

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" The amount is made up of the provision required under the following heads: —

	RS.
(1) Scientific departments—Hydro-electric Survey	23,000
(2) XL. Receipts from Electric Schemes—Working expenses	22,37,100
	22,14,100

" Under ' 36. Scientific Departments—Hydro-electric Survey ' a sum of Rs. 1,54,700 is required for expenditure on account of the Chief Engineer for Electricity, other headquarters supervising staff and special staff employed on investigation work and a sum of Rs. 12,500 for survey work. The Chief Engineer for Electricity as the head of the Electricity department, controls the whole organization and supervises various kinds of work in the department such as operation and maintenance work, construction work of big schemes, work connected with municipal electric supply undertakings, construction and maintenance of electric installations in Government buildings.

" In proportion to the services rendered to each kind of work by the Chief Engineer and other supervising staff, the expenditure on their account is transferred from ' 36. Scientific departments—Hydro-electric Survey ' to other heads and schemes to which the works relate. Such recoveries are expected to amount to Rs. 1,90,200 and if this amount is adjusted towards the expenditure of Rs. 1,67,200, there will be a small credit of Rs. 23,000. This accounts for the minus figure shown against ' 36. Scientific departments—Hydro-electric Survey.'

" Under the head ' XL. Receipts from Electric Schemes—Working expenses,' the working expenses of the electricity schemes, which form part of the expenditure from the revenues of the Province, are shown. The electricity schemes now in operation and those that will be in operation in 1939–40 are: the Pykara Hydro-electric Scheme, the Mettur Hydro-electric Scheme, the Vizagapatam Thermal Scheme, the Bezwada Thermal Scheme and the Cocanada Thermal Scheme. The provision required for working these schemes under voted expenditure is Rs. 22,37,100, the main items being—Maintenance Proper Rs. 5,82,000, Depreciation and Special Reserve funds Rs. 10,97,900, Establishment Rs. 4,89,400 and Suspense Rs. 18,400.

" Under Maintenance Proper, Depreciation and Special Reserve funds and Establishment, the requirement of the Pykara system are the largest (Rs. 2,60,900, Rs. 9,39,400 and Rs. 2,30,900). The Pykara system is our biggest system and is entering the seventh

year of operation. The revenue from the system expected during 1938–39 is Rs. 31·10 lakhs and that anticipated for 1939–40 is Rs. 35·77 lakhs. A Depreciation Fund and a Special Reserve Fund have been constituted for the project from 1937–38 and the provision required for these funds during 1939–40 is Rs. 9,39,400.

"The Mettur Hydro-electric System commenced regular operation from the 1st November 1937. Under Maintenance Proper and Establishment, the requirements of the system are Rs. 1,10,700 and Rs. 1,53,500. Certain subsidiary schemes which formed part of the Pykara system were transferred to the Mettur system and the contribution in respect of these subsidiary schemes for the Depreciation and Special Reserve Funds will amount to Rs. 1,58,500 in 1939–40. Contribution to these funds from the main scheme is according to the sanctioned estimate proposed to be made from the sixth year of operation. The revenue from the system for 1938–39 is estimated at Rs. 10·45 lakhs and that for 1939–40 at Rs. 13·86 lakhs.

"The Vizagapatam Thermal Scheme is in partial operation and will be in regular commercial operation from the 1st April 1939. Its requirements under Maintenance Proper and Establishment are Rs. 75,000 and Rs. 45,700. The estimated revenue for 1938–39 is Rs. 21,400 and that for 1939–40 is Rs. 1,41,800.

"The Bezwada Thermal Scheme also is in partial operation and will commence regular operation from the 1st April 1939. A provision of Rs. 1,18,800 under Maintenance Proper and of Rs. 52,800 under Establishment are required during 1939–40. The estimated revenue for 1938–39 and that for 1939–40 are Rs. 20,500 and Rs. 2,06,500 respectively.

"A scheme for the establishment of a thermal station at Cocanada for supplying power to Cocanada and surrounding areas was sanctioned in March 1938. The work is expected to be completed and operation commenced in the latter half of 1939–40. A sum of Rs. 16,600 under Maintenance Proper and a sum of Rs. 6,500 under Establishment are required for this scheme during 1939–40. The revenue estimated from this scheme for 1939–40 is Rs. 28,200.

"In order to promote electrical development the Government have sanctioned a system of supplying electrical plant and materials to industrialists and agriculturists on hire-purchase terms the repayment being made in easy instalments. Under the head 'Suspense' provision is made for making advances to cover the cost of electrical appliances supplied to consumers and the recoveries effected from them are taken in reduction of expenditure under the same head. This head also shows transactions relating to stock and London stores. The net provision required under this head is Rs. 18,400."

* Sri H. B. ARI GOWDER :—" Sir, I formally move— 3-4[illegible] p.m.

' that the allotment of Rs. 22,14,100 *for Electricity be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" I only wish to impress upon the Government the need for expanding the supply of electricity to the villages at a cheaper rate. The incidence of electricity is much higher and the villagers are not able to avail themselves of the supply. With a larger supply the incidence will be reduced and electricity can be made available to the villagers. I do not think the Government could maintain that electricity is a luxury in these days. It has become a necessity, not only for lighting purposes but also for other industrial purposes. I strongly urge upon the Government to extend supply of electricity as far as they can, especially in villages in the districts situate not far from the sources of supply.

" Coming on to the point of industry, another important thing I want to suggest is that Government should be pleased to say how far they can utilize electrical energy for manufacturing chemicals. For instance, there is the question of manufacture of nitrates. It was pointed out some years ago and the Government also promised to go into the scheme, but in the end it was dropped for reasons which we do not know. Mettur is one of the best places for the development of chemical industries. As we all know there is an increased demand for chemical manures from the agricultural population. Nitrates and other chemicals can be manufactured by means of electricity. I am certain enormous sums of money are being spent by the villagers on fertilizers and these sums go to foreign countries. I am sure that if Government take up this question in right earnest they can help the ryots a great deal. These are the suggestions that I make to the Government for their consideration."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" Mr. Speaker, I support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend from the Nilgiris. I have to repeat the observation that you made a few days back with regard to the printing and circulation of statements of policy made by Members of the Treasury Bench in making a Demand. It does not seem to have been heeded to. The Hon. the Minister for Public Works made a long statement full of figures; perhaps it was necessary in amplification of the statements issued along with the budget. Figures are so difficult to understand when they are merely read. We only understood that he said something with regard to electricity.

" My first criticism, Sir, is that as regards electricity on which too much of money is being spent and much capital has been invested, we do want a statement of policy practically every year, because the Government have got to look into and see how far the expenditure has been fruitful, as it is possible that some of the schemes that have been taken up may not merit any further expenditure.

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"There is the question of the thermal stations. The revenue receipts as disclosed in the budget estimates generally do make happy reading. But then, Sir, the Government seem to have no clear idea; I have not been able to understand from the answers to interpellations on the floor of the House as to how far they are going to undertake electrical development themselves, how far they are going to leave this enterprise in the hands of licensees. It may be that some of these thermal stations do not pay and if private licensees are allowed to develop their own electrical energy, it may be cheaper. The thing is whether the Government have not any definite idea either to take up the whole thing themselves or leave it to private enterprise to be developed. Many of the hon. Members on the other side asked what the Government have done to make the licensees develop the areas that are under their control. What I would like is a clear statement of policy from the Government with regard to these areas where thermal stations have been working, how far they have improved after one year of experience and what their policy is going to be with regard to the granting of licences in future.

"I do not know if the Hon. Minister gave any clear statement with regard to the Papanasam Hydro-electric Scheme. It is a very costly one and the Government are committed to spend the same amount that they have spent on the Pykara and Mettur systems put together. We would like to know how things are now and how far this electrical scheme has advanced. The figures with regard to the Hydro-electric Schemes show that so far as the revised estimates of revenue for 1938–39 are concerned, there has been a drop from the original estimates and I see the drop in revenue is due to the increase in working expenses. I cannot see how the Government could have failed to take notice of such a large increase of working expenses during the year at the time of making the original estimates. Why has that happened? Is the department spending without the knowledge of the Government? Nearly 4 lakhs has increased in Pykara and 2 lakhs in Mettur in the working expenses.

"Then there is the question of the licensees *versus* the Government. I once again refer to what has been said on the floor of the House in regard to the Government compelling licensees to develop areas that are not profitable. The point is, if licensees sell power for more than one anna per unit they would not find any purchaser. They purchase their energy at ·75 of an anna from Government; it leaves a margin of ·25 of an anna. It is not fair. They are commercial concerns. If really the popular will is so powerful, what they should do is to make the Government either to lower the rates with regard to uneconomic lines and charge ·5 of an anna; or make Government give a subsidy to these electrical licensees to develop uneconomic areas. That is the
m. proper way to approach the problem. There is no point in putting pressure on them merely because we have power and make

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them take uneconomic lines in remote villages, however necessary it may be. The Government must bear their share of the cost in order to render service for communities living in uneconomic areas.

"Sir, there is another question very often heard—I think it has been mentioned two or three times—'When is Mettur supply coming to Madras?' But is it at all necessary and why should it come to Madras? What will be the cost to Government and will it be possible for the Government to manufacture power cheaper? What is the extent of the supply developed in Mettur, and what is the supply now developed in the Madras thermal station? These questions do not seem to have been properly understood either by the questioners or by the Government. What is the object of spending capital and bringing power to Madras or to any places very near Madras, if the supply available at Mettur is hardly adequate to meet the needs of the City and the City will have to be supplied even after transmission has been brought to Madras by a thermal station? That is a point on which I would like to have a reply.

"Sir, there is another thing with regard to stores purchase. I raised this question under another Demand. I mentioned the Public Works Department purchases but a reply was not given by the Minister. I raised this question last year also and said that proper encouragement was not being offered to Indian industries. Sir, take the question of cables. When a tender for cables is called for by the Government, they specify a particular quality of cables and state that they must be C.M.A. quality. C.M.A. is an association of cable manufacturers in Calcutta and all of them represent only British interests. They have got a queer system of colours in granting discounts; the Indian gets $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, the railways get 5 per cent and the European agencies get 10 per cent. The question is: why do you specify a particular make and not a well-known standard like the I.S.D. standard? Then there is the Indian Cable Company from whom is bought most of the copper wire for Government lines. The managing agents of this firm are Helsby Insulated Cables who have got an interest in C.M.A. also. The capital is European and the management is European. But the name is Indian and therefore the Government give preference to the Indian firm's goods, whereas continental wires can be purchased cheaper. Now in such things even 5 per cent makes a lot of difference. I do not see why the Government should lose money on this article. These are things worth investigation. That is why, I said, Sir, that purchasing is a technique to be developed. Last year I mentioned the question of fabricated posts. Now, this year, I wish to raise the question of steel towers. When local contractors are asked to tender for steel towers, they have no facility here to produce designs. They have therefore to ask for designs from

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England; and when the design is supplied by a British firm, they claim a proprietary right in the design and the order has to be placed with them and the material is purchased and the labour is paid in England. The point is whether the department that has been spending so much money cannot employ a designer on Rs. 500 a month. It would then be easy for firms like Tata's to supply the steel, and for local firms to fabricate the steel towers here according to the needs of the Government.

"Then again, Sir, the speaker who spoke previous to me mentioned the question of development of industries. I am not speaking about manure or fertilizers. I am speaking about the electric industry. Here we have got at the head of the department, a man who is highly paid and a very capable man. Why not use his services to advise and help in the starting of industries? You can make bulbs. You can make fans. You can make transformers as in Mysore. You can draw copper wires. All these are not difficult things. The officer here will be very useful and his guidance will be very valuable, if the Government initiate the policy of aiding the manufacture of these things.

"Then, Sir, when the Chief Engineer left on leave he was replaced by a Mr. Platts. Because he was a Civil Engineer, a Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer besides this particular officer was appointed. He is reported to be on duty at Amhasamudram, though he generally stays in Madras. So when a cheque had to be paid to a contractor in Madras, it had to go forward and backwards between Madras and Ambasamudram a number of times. I do not know if the Government have noticed this fact.

"Lastly there is this question of Indianization. There are a number of European officers. The Chief Engineer has undoubtedly done a lot for electricity in this Province. His advice has been very valuable, though probably it is not quite a wise policy to have the same man conducting the construction of three big schemes. At the same time, I am told by all that know him that his services are so valuable that it is difficult to replace him. I would ask the Government what they did to train others under him to take his place. If they have not done anything, would it not be wise to keep the officer and use him for the development of electrical industries? I would ask the Hon. the Minister to give a detailed reply, because the general feeling here is that a lot of money is being consumed and before money is spent, some careful control is necessary."

At this stage the Speaker suggested that a summary of the speech may be rendered in Tamil. Mr. T. T. Krishnamachariar pleaded inability and there was a discussion for a few minutes on the subject.

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே. இப்பொழுது நமது நாட்டில் ஆண்டவனால் இந்த மின்சார சக்தியானது அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது நமது அரசாங்கத்தார் இந்த

23rd March 1939] [Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

மின்சாரத்தைக்கொண்டு பல நல்ல காரியங்கள் செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இன்னுஞ் செய்யப்போகிறார்கள். இதற்கு ஏராளமான பணம் வேண்டியதாகயிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது கையில் கொடுத்திருக்கும் வெண்ணெயை விட்டுவிட்டு நெய்யைத் தேடுவதுபோல நமக்கு ஏராளமான பணத்தைத் தரக்கூடிய ஒரு வஸ்து ஆண்டவனால் கையில் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிற இதை அந்நியர் கையில் கொடுத்துவிட்டு நாம் பணத்திற்குத் திண்டாடிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம்.

"இந்த சமயத்தில் மின்சார சக்தி விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது சென்னையில் கிராம்டன் கம்பெனி என்ற ஒரு கம்பெனியார் மின்சாரத்தை உண்டாக்கி சப்ளை செய்கிறார்கள். மின்சாரம் ஆறு பைசாவில் உண்டாகிறது. ஆனால் அவர்கள் நாலணாவுக்குமேல் விற்றுவருகிறார்கள். இதனால் ஏராளமான பணம் அந்நியர் கையில் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. மதுரை முனிசிபாலிட்டியில் சொந்தத்தில் முனிசிப்பாலிட்டியாரே மின்சாரத்தை உண்டாக்கி மதுரையிலுள்ள வீடுகளுக்கு எலெக்டிரிக் சப்ளை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அதனால் வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு மதுரை முனிசிப்பாலிட்டிக்கு ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாய் மிச்சம் வந்ததாகத் தெரியவருகிறது. அந்த மாதிரி மதுரையிலுள்ள வீடுகளுக்கு மதுரை முனிசிப்பாலிட்டியிலே வைத்து நடத்தும் எலெக்டிரிக் சப்ளை கம்பெனியால் மின்சாரம் சப்ளை செய்யப்படுவதால் வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு மதுரை முனிசிப்பாலிட்டிக்கு ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஆதாயம் வருமானால் இப்பொழுது சென்னை போன்ற இடங்களில் அதேமாதிரி செய்தால் எவ்வளவு பணம் வரும். சர்க்கார் எவ்வளவோ பணம் செலவு செய்து பைக்காரா **(Pykara)** மேட்டூர் **(Mettur)** மின்சார திட்டம்போன்ற திட்டங்களை ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ளார்கள். சர்க்காருக்கு சுமார் இரண்டு பைசா அடங்கலாம். இதை வேறு பிரைவேட் கம்பெனிகளுக்குக் கொடுத்துவிட்டதினால் அந்தக் கம்பெனிகள் அதன் மூலமாய் கடைசியில் நாலணா, ஐந்தணா, ஆறணாவரையிலும் விற்கும் நிலைமைக்கு வந்திருக்கின்றன. நமது சர்க்கார் சென்னையில் சேஷசாயி கம்பெனிக்கு மின்சார சக்தியை கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஏழு காசு விகிதத்திற்கு கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்கள் கம்பெனியில் நாலணா, ஐந்தணா, ஆறணாவுக்கு விற்கிறார்கள். ஆகையினாலே சர்க்காரே இந்த மின்சார சக்தியை நேரே தங்களிடம் வைத்து ஏழைகளுக்குச் சப்ளை செய்தால் ஏழைகளுக்குக் குறைந்த சார்ஜியில் கொடுக்கலாம். சர்க்காருக்கும் லாபம் உண்டாகும். இப்பொழுது அந்நிய கம்பெனிகளுக்குக் கொடுத்துவிட்டதினால் ஏராளமான பணத்தை இடையிலுள்ள கம்பெனிக்காரர்கள் லாபமாக அடித்துக்கொண்டு போகிறார்கள்.

"தற்பொழுது எனது சொந்த அனுபவத்தில் தெரிந்ததைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். சிதம்பரத்திலுள்ள எங்கள் நந்தனார் ஸ்தாபனத்தில் மண்ணெண்ணெ **(kerosene oil)** வைத்து விளக்கெரிந்தபோது மாதம் ஒன்றுக்கு முப்பது ரூபாய் செலவழிந்தது. இப்பொழுது அங்குள்ள கம்பெனி மூலமாக அங்கு மின்சார விளக்குகள் ஏற்படுத்தியதும் மாதம் ஒன்றுக்கு அறுபது ரூபாய் அந்த எலெக்டிரிக் கம்பெனிக்கு கொடுத்து வருகிறோம். இதற்குமுன் முப்பது ரூபாயில் விளக்கேற்றும் செலவு முடிந்தது. இப்பொழுது மின்சார விளக்குகள் போட்டபின் அறுபது ரூபாய் நாங்கள் கொடுக்கும் நிலைமைக்கு வந்துவிட்டோம். இதனால் என்ன தெரிகிறதென்றால் அந்நிய கம்பெனிக்காரர் கையில் மின்சார சக்தியைக் கொடுத்ததினால் ஜனங்களுக்கு யாதொரு வசதியுமில்லை. சர்க்கார் நேரில் மின்சார சக்தியை உற்பத்திசெய்து மதராஸில் விற்றால், அந்நிய கம்பெனி நாலணாவுக்கு விற்கிறதை ஜனங்களுக்கு குறைத்து இரண்டணாவுக்கு விற்றால், ஜனங்களுக்கும் லாபம் உண்டாகிறது. சர்க்காருக்கும் லாபம் உண்டாகிறது. ஏழைகளுக்கு மின்சாரத்தை உபயோகிக்க வசதியும் உண்டாகிறது என்பது தெளிவாகத் தெரியவருகிறது. ஆகையினாலே மின்சார சக்தி உற்பத்தியை கம்பெனிகளிடமிருந்து சர்க்கார் தங்களுடைய கையில் எடுத்

துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால் சர்க்காருக்கும் லாபமுண்டு. உபயோகிக்கும் ஜனங்களுக்கும் லாபம் உண்டு.

" இப்பொழுது நீர்ப்பாசனத்திற்காக கிணறுகளிலிருந்து தண்ணீர் எடுக்க கிராமங்களில் மின்சார சக்தி கம்பெனிகளிடம் கேட்டால் ஒரு லைன் கொண்டுபோக சுமார் மூவாயிர ரூபாய் கட்டவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். இதனால் ஏழைகள் மின்சார சக்தியை நீர்ப்பாசன வசதிக்காக உபயோகித்துக்கொள்ள முடியவில்லை. முதலில் லாபம் உண்டாக்கும் மார்க்கத்தை சர்க்கார் காட்டினால் பலபேர்கள் உபயோகித்துக்கொள்ள ஆரம்பிப்பார்கள். அதனால் ஏழைகளுக்கு வரும்படி உண்டாகும். சர்க்காருக்கும் லாபமுண்டாகும். ஆகையினாலே இந்த மின்சார சக்தியை ஏழைகளுக்காக ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற சர்க்கார் தங்கள் கையில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு ஏழைகள் உபயோகத்திற்குக் கொடுக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அந்நியர் கையில் மின்சார சக்தியைக் கொடுக்காமல் சர்க்கார் நேரில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு சப்ளை செய்தால் ஏழைகளுக்கும் சர்க்காருக்கும் பெரிதும் பயன்படும். இப்பொழுது பிரைவேட் கம்பெனிகளுக்குக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறதை ரத்துச்செய்து சர்க்காரே எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். "

* **Sri D. V. RAMASWAMI**:—" అధ్యక్షా, నేనీ విద్యుత్‌శక్తినిగూర్చి కొన్ని విషయములు మంత్రిగారి యాలోచనకై మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. విద్యుత్ శక్తి నిజముగా ప్రజలకందరికిని ఉపయోగకరమైన మహాశక్తి. ముఖ్యముగా దేశములోని అన్ని గ్రామములందు విద్యుత్ శక్తిని ప్రవేశపెట్టి దానిమూలమున ప్రజలకు తగిన సౌకర్యముల నేర్పరచవలెను. దేశమందలి ప్రజలందరిస్థితినికూడా మనము గమనించవలసియున్నది. ఎక్కడచూచినను పర్వతములతోను నదులతోను కూడుకొని ఆంధ్రదేశములో విద్యుత్‌శక్తిని తయారుచేయుటకెన్నియవకాశములున్నప్పటికి ఇంతవరకు ఈశక్తివల్ల ప్రజలెంతెంతలాభములను పొందగలిగినారో గమనించినచో చాల విచారము గలుగుచున్నది. మా ప్రాంతములలో ఒక్కచోటకూడా ఎలెక్ట్రిక్ సర్వే చేయబడలేదని మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. అట్టివేవైన చేసినచో దక్షిణాదిని పాపనాశము, మెట్టూరు, పైకారా ప్రాంతములకే చేసినారు. ఆంధ్రదేశములోకూడా లాభకరమైన స్కీముల నేర్పరచుట కవకాశములున్నవి. విశాఖపట్టణమునుండి గోదావరి జిల్లావరకు వరుసగానున్న మలయా పర్వతములను చూచినచో అనేకచోట్ల జలపాతములు గలవు. వాటిని కొంచెమైనను అభిమానముతోను శ్రద్ధతోను ఇన్వెస్టిగేటు చేసి వాటిపై కొద్ది ధనము వెచ్చించినయెడల దానివల్ల శాశ్వతమైన ఉపకారము గ్రామ వ్యవసాయదారులకు చేసినవారేగాక జనాళి కనేకవిధములైన సహాయమొనర్చినవారగుదురని మనవిచేయుచున్నాను.

"దానికితోడు, అడవులలో అనేకవిధములైన కలప విశేషముగా దొరకుచున్నది. దానితో విద్యుత్‌శక్తిద్వారా గృహపరిశ్రమల నభివృద్ధిపరచుట కవకాశములున్నవి. ఆ కలప గృహనిర్మాణములకేగాక కుర్చీలు, బల్లలు, మంచములు, మొదలైన పరికరములను, రైల్వే కమ్ములను తయారుచేసుకొనుటకును ఈ విద్యుత్ శక్తి సహాయపడుచున్నది. అదియునుగాక థర్మల్ యంత్రసంబంధమైన స్కీమువల్ల మనము లాభము పొందజాలము. హైడ్రో-ఎలెక్ట్రిక్ స్కీమువల్ల మనకు పనులు చాలచౌకగా జరుగగలవు. విశాఖపట్నము జిల్లాలో లంబసింగు, జయపూరు మాడుగులవద్ద జలపాతములున్నవి. వీటినేగాక ఆంధ్రదేశములో ఇతర ప్రాంతములలోకూడ కొలదిమాసములలో సర్వే చేయించి వాటిపై 1,000 రూపాయిలో, 500 రూపాయిలో ఖర్చుపెట్టినచో

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అప్పటి ప్రజలకు చాల లాభములు కలగగలవని నేనును, శ్రీ డి. యల్. నరశింహరాజు గారుకూడ ఈ విషయమై పూర్తిగా ఆలోచించి దీనినిగూర్చి మంత్రిగార్లతో మనవిచేసి యున్నారు. గాన నేను మంత్రిగారితో మనవిచేసేదేమంటే చౌకరకమగు హైడ్రో-ఎలెక్ట్రిక్ స్కీము నమలునూపెట్టి దానితో పనులుచేయుట కలవాటుచేసినచో ఈ విద్యుత్ శక్తివల్ల చాలలాభములను పొందగలమని, ఉత్తర సర్కారులలో ఇదివరలో పడిపోయిన పరిశ్రమలపై అభిమానముంచి థర్మల్ స్కీమును తగ్గించి చౌకరకమగు హైడ్రో-ఎలెక్ట్రిక్ స్కీమును ప్రవేశపెట్టి గ్రామములలో చౌక రేడియాల నెలకొల్పి ఆంధ్రదేశములోని ప్రజల కుపకారము చేయవలెనని మనవిచేయుచు ఇంతటితో విరమించుచున్నాను.''

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Speaker, I am really sorry that I have not had the benefit of following the previous two speakers who spoke in Tamil and Telugu respectively, because I do not know both the languages."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Just as the non-English-knowing members who have been denied the benefit of following the proceedings all along."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I am prepared to translate my speech in Hindustani or deliver my speech itself in Hindustani, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" There are so many hon. Members who do not know English, but yet know Hindustani. You are always welcome to deliver your speeches in Hindustani; and on this cut motion especially, as the Hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan knows Hindustani, it will be in the fitness of things that you should speak in Hindustani."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB Bahadur speaking in Hindustani said:—

" Mr. Speaker, I hope most of the hon. Members of this House will be able to follow what I say in Hindustani and I am sure the Hon. the Minister who is in charge of this department will more fully appreciate my humble suggestions.

" Sir, we of the West Coast are glad to know that the Pykara power is being extended up to Cannanore on the West Coast. The scheme is under preparation and will soon be submitted to Government for sanction. It is, therefore, hoped that the work will be executed within the next year. I would like to know, Sir, when the Pykara power would be extended beyond Cannanore to South Kanara. I request the Government and the Hon. Minister in particular, to take up the question of further extension and to put the scheme into execution in the year following, that is in 1940–41.

" But, Sir, the scheme of extension appears to be confined only to important towns lying along the coast on the West. The Government will, therefore, do well to consider the need for extending the supply of electrical energy to the rural and interior parts on the West Coast. The supply of electricity to the rural parts should

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be cheaper so as to be within the reach of the poorer classes also. Electricity should be made available for use in cottage industries and village manufactures. The Government should find out some means of supplying cheap electrical energy to rural areas in the interior.

"Sir, quite close to South Kanara the foundation of the Gersoppa Hydro-Electric Works has been laid in the Mysore Province. His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore laid the foundation stone the other day. The Diwan Saheb who visited South Kanara recently has promised to supply cheap electrical energy to the people of South Kanara from Gersoppa, if the consent of the Madras Government could be got for the purpose. Now, Sir, South Kanara is bordering on Mysore Province and a vast tract of rural area lies close to the Mysore frontier along the foot of the Western Ghauts. In my opinion it will, therefore, be cheaper and more convenient to get electricity from Gersoppa for the benefit of the interior parts of South Kanara, lying along the foot of the Western Ghauts. The Hon. the Minister may kindly examine this question and find out the possibility of coming to an understanding with the Government of Mysore for the supply of electricity to South Kanara from Gersoppa. I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Minister will give due consideration to my humble suggestions and do whatever is possible."

.0 MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker,
1. I have a cut motion raising a specific point, viz., the injustice done to the Andhras in the selection of Assistant Electrical Engineers recently. I cannot, therefore, be said to take the Government by surprise. The Hon. the Minister for Public Works has collected the figures and facts and is ready with full information on the subject. I hope, Sir, I am not treading on that dangerous ground of communalism by moving this cut motion. Yet I am afraid that this criticism might be put down as petty-minded and selfish and might be answered by stating that the appointment of officers based on community, race or locality is derogatory to the principle of efficiency. Well, Sir, this bogy of efficiency and merit, this demand for fair treatment, is being trotted out in season and out of season by the Government responsible for services and by the communities that are monopolizing the services and are dominating the services. Whatever justification there may be for that attitude on the part of the Government and such of those communities that are dominating the services, the fact that the Andhras are in a subordinate position in the services, especially in the Public Works Department is staring us in the face. The agitation for a separate province is due not a little to the inferior position occupied by the Andhras in the services. It may be the Tamilians are, as our Premier undoubtedly is, more clever and more efficient and there may be . . ."

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I deprecate this suggestion, Sir. It has a very mischievous effect indeed and I want your protection. It should not be put in this form at all. I have no objection to the substance."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think personal references must stop."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg your pardon, Sir, and I withdraw the personal reference.

"It may be that Tamilians are more clever, more efficient and there are more Honours men and first-class men amongst them, but . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Again, Sir, I submit that no Tamilian claims as a class to be cleverer or more efficient or anything of that kind."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is my opinion, Sir. And there may be a justification on that ground for monopolizing the services. That is what I meant to say."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But, that is a very wrong ground. Nobody claims it. That is not a fact."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am entitled to have my opinions, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But, are not the opinions so clearly wrong, when they are pointed out by the Prime Minister? The Government know full well that there is no such difference."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"This very speech shows that the assumption is wrong."

SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"And, we, Andhras protest against it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"An Andhra never wants to have that inferiority complex. The hon. Lady Member objects. She is as intelligent as anybody else in the world."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Andhras are proud. They will not admit the fact.

"I am sorry, Sir. I may be allowed to say what I wish to say."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the Hon. the Premier thinks that these remarks may tend to some mischief."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"And yet, Sir, there might have been some justification at least in the past for other communities or persons belonging to other districts occupying places of position in this department. My submission is that it is just this circumstance that is responsible for the Andhras claiming to separate themselves, because they feel that as long as they are attached to the apron-strings of the Madras Presidency their position will continue to be so. They would rather say, 'We will have self-government rather than better Government'."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Are not the Andhras a part of the Government now? Are they not in the Government? The question of provinces stands on an entirely different footing."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Andhras are very much disappointed and they have watched in vain for a reference to this question of the Andhra Province in the Budget speech of the Premier. Their disappointment is still greater than even after a reference was made by the Andhra leader, Mr. K. Venkatappayya, in his speech at the time of the general discussion of the Budget, no reference was made in the reply—a very elaborate reply—made by the Premier to the Budget speeches. The necessity for a separate Budget for the Andhra districts was very eloquently urged by the very same Andhra leader, Mr. K. Venkatappayya Pantulu Garu, but not a word was spoken in reply to that demand.

" Very well, Sir. Coming down to this question of the appointment of Assistant Electrical Engineers, I am informed that recently 24 appointments of Electrical Engineers were made and I am further informed that, in spite of the fact that there was a sufficient number of Andhra candidates with equal, if not better, qualifications, only three or four Andhras have been appointed out of 24. Further, I am informed very authoritatively that although there were Andhras here better qualified, some others with lesser qualifications have been preferred to these Andhras. And, this is done in spite of the agitation which is going on in the Andhra Desa. I stop with that, Sir, because I find that it will be really embarrassing to the Government if I state anything more in this matter.

" It is very unfortunate that I from the Opposition should voice forth the protest from Andhra Desa, because the Andhra members on the Government benches cannot do so—openly, that is what I mean. But, if the Government are fair—and I have no reason to believe that they are not fair—whether the protest comes from this side or that side, I am sure they would not mind it and they would remedy the evil.

" I never knew, Sir, that my speech on this occasion would touch, I mean to say, the Premier to the quick. I may be excused if I have transcended the limits of decency and decorum. But I am sure I have not done so."

Sri R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—" May I speak a few words in English and then translate into Telugu for the benefit of the Hon. the Minister? "

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister will have it translated by his Parliamentary Secretary."

Several hon. MEMBERS:—" He has no Parliamentary Secretary."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" He can have the assistance of the Chief Parliamentary Secretary. The assistance of the Chief Parliamentary Secretary is always available to all the Ministers."

* SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—" అధ్యక్షమహాశయా, విద్యుత్ శక్తి రైతుల కెట్లు వినియోగపడునో, విద్యుత్ శక్తివల్ల రైతులెట్లు బాగుపడుటకు అవకాశములు కలవో దానినిగూర్చి గవర్నమెంటువా రేవిధమైన ప్రయత్నము చేయుచున్నారనే విషయమునుగురించి కొన్ని మాటలు చెప్పదలచినాను. విద్యుత్ శక్తిని ముఖ్యముగా మన దేశములో విస్తారముగా గ్రామములందు ప్రవేశపెట్టిననేగాని, దానివల్ల ప్రజలందరికిని తగినంత ఉపకారములేదు. రైతులు బాగుపడవలెనంటే విద్యుత్ శక్తి గ్రామములలో ప్రవేశపెట్టవలెను. దత్తమండలములలోను, అందును మా చిత్తూరు జిల్లాలోను వున్న బీదప్రజలకష్టములేమనగా, వారిభూములకు నీరు పార్చుకొనుట చాలా కష్టము. డెల్టా ప్రాంతములలో అట్టి కష్టములు లేవు. మా ప్రాంతములలో ఎద్దులను కట్టి మోట తోలితేనేగాని భూమికి నీరుపారదు. ప్రతిరైతు సంవత్సరానికి 100 రూపాయలు మొదలు 150 రూపాయిలవరకు ఖర్చుపెడితేనేగాని భూమికి నీరుపారదు. ప్రతిరైతు ఈకారణమువల్లనే కృంగిపోవుచున్నాడు. వారికి సహాయము చేయవలెనంటే ఖర్చులు తగ్గించుటయేగాక ఈ విద్యుత్ శక్తి గ్రామములలో అతి విరివిగా ప్రవేశపెట్టినచో వారి భూములకు నీరు తోడుకొనుట చాల సులభము కాగలదు. ఈ విషయములో గవర్నమెంటువారి విధానము స్పష్టము కాలేదు. విద్యుత్ శక్తితో పట్టణములలో దీపములకే గాక ఇతర పనులకును ఉపయోగపడుచుటయేగాని గ్రామములలో దీనిని ప్రవేశపెట్టుటకు గవర్నమెంటువారు తగిన ప్రయత్నము చేయుటలేదు.

"విద్యుత్ శక్తిని గ్రామస్థులుపయోగించుకొను విధానమునంతను పత్రికలలో ప్రకటించియు కరపత్రములు వేయించియు, వాటిని గ్రామములలో పంచిపెట్టించవలెను. ఈవిషయములో నేను మంత్రిగారిని కొన్ని ప్రశ్నలను వేయగా దానికి మంత్రిగారు తగిన శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొందుమని చెప్పినారు. కాని ఇంతవరకు కరపత్రములేమియు గ్రామములలో పంచిపెట్టించుట జరుగలేదు. వ్యవసాయశాఖా మంత్రిగారును, పబ్లిక్ శాఖా మంత్రిగారును కలిసి అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటరుద్వారా గ్రామములలో కరపత్రములు పంచిపెట్టించినచో విద్యుత్ శక్తి మూలమున రైతుల కెంతెంత లాభములు కలుగునో, ఎద్దులను మోటలకుకట్టి నీరు తోడుకొనినచో ఎంత నష్టములు కలుగుచున్నవో ప్రత్యక్షముగా వారికి తెలియగలదు. ఈ విషయములో నేను కొన్ని లెక్కలు వేసిచూడగా మోటల కంటె విద్యుత్ శక్తివల్ల చాల లాభమని తెలియుచున్నది. ఎలక్ట్రిక్ యంత్రములమ్ము కంపెనీవారుకూడా కొన్ని లెక్కలు తయారుచేసియున్నారు. వాటినన్నిటిని సులభ శైలిలో కరపత్రములువేసి పంచిపెట్టవలెను.

"విద్యుత్ శక్తి గ్రామస్థులకుపయోగపడగల విధానమునుగూర్చి గవర్నమెంటు ఉద్యోగస్థులతో మాట్లాడగా, కేవలం వ్యవసాయమునకుమాత్రము దానిని గ్రామములలోనికి తీసుకొనిపోవుట సాధ్యముకాదనియు దీపములు కావలసినచో పట్నములలోగాని పల్లెలలోగాని పెట్టుటకు వీలుండునని లెక్కలవల్ల తెలియుచున్నదని చెప్పుచున్నారు. గ్రామములలో విద్యుద్దీపములకంత గిరాకీ యుండదు. వారికి విద్యుద్దీపముల నుపయోగించునంత ఉపపత్తి యుండదు. రైతులకు లాభములుకలిగి వారుకోరినప్పుడు దీపములకు శక్తినిప్పించవచ్చునుగాని ప్రస్తుతం ముఖ్యముగా వ్యవసాయమునకును, ఇతర పరిశ్రమలకును, ప్రభుత్వమువారొక విధానమవలంభించి గ్రామములలోనికి విద్యుత్ శక్తి తీసుకొనిపోవుటకు ప్రయత్నించవలెను.

[Sri R. B. Ramakrishna Raju] [23rd March 1939

"చిత్తూరు గ్రామమునకు మెట్టూరు పవర్‌హౌసునుంచి సులభముగా విద్యుత్ శక్తి వచ్చును. కావున ప్రభుత్వమువారిని నేను కోరేదేమనగా పేద రైతుల కష్టములను తొలగించుటకై అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటరుద్వారా కరపత్రములు పంపిపెట్టించి తద్వారా రైతులకు విద్యుత్‌శక్తివల్ల కలుగు లాభములను వెల్లడిచేయవలెనని ప్రార్థించుచున్నాను."

*V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR.—"மேன்மை தங்கிய **Speaker** அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது எலெக்டிரிசிட்டி விஷயமாய் பேசுகிறேன். எலெக்டிரிசிட்டியானது இந்த உலகத்தில் கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டு உலகமானது மின்சார சக்தியினால் பூரண முன்னேற்றத்தை அடைந்திருக்கிறது. அதனால் ஏராளமாய் லாபகரமாய் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு வேண்டியவற்றை மின்சார சக்தியினால் ஜனங்கள் அடைந்து வருகிறார்கள். இம்மாகாணத்தில் மின்சார சக்தியானது சொற்பமாயிருந்தாலும் இது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கையிலில்லாமல் கேவலம் சில வியாபாரிகள் இதைக் கைவசப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு அதிக லாபம் சம்பாதிக்க முயல்வதினால் ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் ஒரு விதத்திலும் பிரயோசனமில்லாதிருக்கிறது. விவசாயிகளுக்கு கவர்ன்மெண்டு மூலமாய் மின்சாரசக்தி கிடைக்கிறதாயிருந்தால், விவசாயிகளுக்கு வேண்டிய அளவு மின்சாரத்தைக் குறைந்த செலவில் பெற்று விவசாயத்தை விர்த்திசெய்து அதற்கு வேண்டிய தண்ணீர் முதலியவற்றை மின்சார சக்தியின் உதவியைக் கொண்டு பெற்று குறைந்த செலவில் தானியங்களை விளைவிப்பதற்கு ஏதுவாய் இருக்கும். இதுவன்றியில் தொழிற்சாலைகளில் மின்சார சக்தியைக் குறைந்த செலவில் உபயோகப்படுத்தி குறைந்த விலையில் சாமான்களை உற்பத்தி செய்து வெளியாக்குவதற்கு வேண்டிய வசதி ஏற்படும். இத்தியாதி காரணங்களினால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் மின்சாரத்தை, அதாவது விலையுயர்ந்த மின்சாரத்தை, தாங்களே கையாண்டு அதைப் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு உபயோகமாகும்படி செய்து அதன் மூலம் கவர்ன்மெண்டாரும் ஏராளமான லாபமடையலாம்.

"இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் மின்சாரத்திற்கு ஒருவித வரி விதித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இது ரொம்பவும் ஆச்சரியமாயிருக்கிறது. பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு மின்சாரத்தின் மூலம் போதிய அளவு சௌகரியஞ் செய்து தாங்களும் ஏராளமான லாபம் அடைவதை விட்டு விட்டு இப்பொழுது மின்சாரத்தின்மேல் அவர்கள் வரி போட்டு இப்பொழுது உபயோகிக்கிறவர்களையும் உபயோகிக்கவிடாமல் செய்கிறதைப் பார்க்க மிகவும் ஆச்சரியமாயிருக்கிறது.

"மின்சாரத்தை ஸர்க்காரே ஏற்று, பொது ஜனங்கள் எவ்வளவுக்கெவ்வளவு அதிகமாய் உபயோகப்படுத்தச்செய்ய வேண்டுமோ அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஒத்தாசையை பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு கவர்ன்மெண்டார் செய்து அதன் மூலம் பொது ஜனங்களும் நன்மையடைந்து ஸர்க்காரும் லாபமடையுமாறு செய்ய வேண்டும். மின்சாரத்தின் உதவியினால் அநேக வியாதிகள் ஓரளவு நீங்கக் கூடியதாயிருக்கிறது. மற்றும் உலகத்திலுள்ள எந்த வஸ்துவை எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் மின்சார சக்தியைக்கொண்டு விர்த்திபண்ணலாம் என்று உலகம் காட்டும் இந்தக்காலத்தில் மின்சாரத்தைப் பொது ஜனங்கள் உபயோகிக்கிறதற்கு வேண்டிய உதவியை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் செய்து இப்பொழுது பிரைவேட் கம்பெனிகளுக்கு மின்சாரத்தைக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறதை ரத்துச் செய்து தங்களுடைய கையில் அதை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு, ஜனங்களுக்கு மின்சார சக்தியை யூனிட் அரை அணாவுக்குக் குறைந்ததாய் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

"**Speaker** அவர்களே, அஜெண்டாவையும் இன்னும் மற்ற கவர்ன்மெண்டு பேப்பர்களையும் தமிழில் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்".

23rd March 1939]

MR. SPEAKER:—"We want them to be not only in Tamil but also in Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam also." 4-45 p.m.

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ari Gowder made only general remarks. He said that the charges for electricity are so high that the villagers are not able to meet them and added that the supply of electricity should not be made by Government merely to earn profit. The first object of electricity should be to help the rural and industrial development of the country, and rates and other things should not come in the way of that object. He also said that electric energy should be utilized for the manufacture of certain chemicals and that Mettur is the proper place where those chemicals can be manufactured. That is a suggestion which I am sure my Hon. Colleague the Minister for Industries will take up. He has been already paying much attention to the industrial development of the Province.

"Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari's criticism was very helpful indeed and welcome it. I am sorry he is not here to hear my reply. He said that the policy of the Government in the Electricity department should be stated every year. I do not see why the policy should be repeated every year. When once it is stated, it should be enough. Of course we are continuing the last year's policy and it can stand repetition now too. I will later on state our policy in reply to certain questions that have been raised. It was stated that the receipts and expenses under thermal stations do not show encouraging results. It is so, because it costs more to produce electricity at thermal stations than at hydro-electric stations. Roughly, a unit of energy generated at a thermal station costs, half an anna more than the energy generated at a hydro-electric station. The selling rates are also accordingly about half-an-anna more."

M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know the actual cost?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The actual cost differs with different stations. Electricity produced at thermal stations costs more than the electricity produced at hydro-electric stations. If electricity is produced on a large scale the cost will be less, and if it is produced on a small scale the cost will be more. It was remarked that there was increased expenditure of four lakhs under the Pykara and two lakhs under the Mettur system. The hon. Member who made this remark asked why this was so. The reason, Sir, is clear. There will be further extension of works for which more expenditure is required. For example, under Pykara we have laid down one extra line of pipes and two machines will begin to work from June next. Increased provision under working expenditure has therefore to be made for this. As regards

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Mettur, the scheme came into operation on 1st November 1937 and it is growing. As the expenditure grows, the income will also grow.

"Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari said that there are certain uneconomic lines where the licensees are charging high rates and suggested that we might give some sort of subsidy to those licensees to enable them to charge lower rates so as to help the rural development. *A suggestion of that kind coming from a merchant is* rather surprising. The supply of electricity has to be done on a commercial basis. When licensees take up the distribution work certain rates per unit are fixed in their agreements. Such rates are not very high. In the beginning, of course, the rates have to be high and gradually they are reduced. Different rates will necessarily prevail in different areas and it is not quite correct to compare them and classify some as economic and some as uneconomic.

"Some hon. Members asked when Madras would get electricity from Mettur. That question was put to me also previously. I may mention that the resources of Mettur are limited. The resources of Pykara are on the other hand almost unlimited, because there is a high fall of 3,000 feet from the hills. The Pykara system now supplies 35,000 kwt. of electricity and another line of pipes has been laid and two more

p.m. machines will be working in June next. This will increase the supply further. Near Pykara there is another fall Moyar from a height of 1,000 feet. We will have a scheme there and produce electricity. But in the case of Mettur the drop is very little being only 200 feet and electricity can be produced only in certain quantities and there is a limit to it. *So also in Papanasam, electricity has to be drawn from a reservoir* where the drop is only 300 feet. Therefore at Papanasam there is a combined hydro-electric and thermal scheme, so that the *deficiency of hydro-electric supply may be made up by thermal* supply. The Mettur load is developing so much that it is possible that it may reach up to the maximum limit of production before we take the supply to Madras in hand. So we may have to establish a thermal station in order to supplement the production at Mettur just as we propose to have one in connexion with the Papanasam scheme. Therefore by the time the period of the licence of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation will be over in seven years, we may probably purchase that Corporation's installation and supply electricity to Madras and Nellore from here. I think things may develop like that. Therefore I can't say whether Mettur electricity will come to Madras at all. I don't think there will be enough to spare for Madras; and even if there be something, I can't say when it will come, at any rate not in any case till the licence of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation terminates.

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" Then Mr. Krishnamachariar also spoke about the purchase of stores. The suggestions he has made about the purchase of C.M.A. cable, copper wires, steel, etc., will receive our best attention. When I come to Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Electric Schemes, I will deal with the policy the Government propose to follow in respect of the purchase of foreign materials for the Papanasam scheme. But as far as the present Demand is concerned, I wish to assure the hon. Members that we are doing our best to purchase Indian materials first, then articles manufactured in India from foreign materials and so on. I do not think I should deal with this subject in detail. I may say that this matter has been receiving the most careful attention of the Government. I will further examine the specific suggestions that Mr. Krishnamachariar has made and try to act on his advice.

" In this connexion I will say a few words about the use of wooden poles instead of steel. In answer to a question in this House I have said that we would use wooden poles to a large extent in future. I may mention that on the 3rd April next a conference of the Chief Conservator of Forests, the Chief Engineer and others is to take place to consider this question of using wooden poles for transmission lines after chemically treating them to make them impervious and more lasting. I mention this to show that even little things like these are receiving our closest attention.

" Mr. Krishnamachariyar paid a glowing complaint to the Chief Engineer for Electricity and asked, 'Why not use his services for the manufacture of bulbs, fans and copper wires?' I must tell him that to organize electricity projects is one thing, and the manufacture of electrical articles is quite a different thing. It will be a waste of his time to employ it in the manufacture of such articles. Bulbs are now being manufactured in India, and we do not require the services of a European Chief Engineer to help us in manufacturing bulbs, fans and copper wire.

" He also criticized the establishment. He said that when the Chief Engineer for Electricity was on leave, a gentleman was employed to act in his place, who was not an electrical engineer and that he received a much higher salary, that is, the Chief Engineer's salary. Let me tell him that we have two Superintending Engineers in the Electricity department, of whom one is an Indian gentleman. The Superintending Engineer for construction works is Col. Platts. He was in charge of the construction work for a long time; the construction of Mettur, Pykara and other works had taken place under his supervision, and he is supervising the construction of the Papanasam scheme also. So during the short period of Major Sir Henry Howard's absence, Col. Platts was the proper person to act for him. He

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received his usual salary *plus* something extra by way of allowance during the period he acted as Chief Engineer but he did not get the Chief Engineer's salary.

" About the subject of Indianization, as I have said, we have got Indian engineers as well as European engineers in the Electricity department. They are gaining much experience and it is quite possible that there may be an Indian Chief Engineer for Electricity at no distant date.

" Swami Sahajananda said that God has given us electricity and that therefore no charge should be made for it. So also God has given water, God has given everything. The Government are only conserving and carrying it from one place to another and making it useful for agricultural, industrial and other purposes. We are only acting as God's agents to distribute what he has given us in abundance in His generosity. He said, " Let the Government supply electricity direct to the consumers; then the consumers will get the benefit of cheaper rates and the profits that are now made by licensees and middlemen will be saved to the Government." That is a suggestion that is worth consideration, and I will deal with it shortly. While on this point I may say there is a limit to everything; everything can't be done by the Government themselves. Nowadays division of work is the principle on which economic development takes place. A manufacturer does not become the wholesale dealer or the retail dealer of the commodity that he produces.

" Mr. D. V. Ramaswami spoke in Telugu. He asked ' Why hydro-electric facilities are not provided in Andhra Desa.' That was one of the points he laid much stress upon and he added that electricity should be supplied to the Agency areas and so on. He also said that timber should be used for posts, that thermal schemes are costly and therefore arrangements should be made for hydro-electric schemes in Andhra Desa. A question was put to-day whether there are any places in Andhra Desa, where hydro-electricity is generated, and if so, what those places are? My answer was in the negative. But if he had asked, ' Are there places in Andhra Desa where hydro-electricity can be generated? ' then I would have answered, ' Yes ' ' there are such places.' No doubt there are certain places where hydro-electricity can be generated. Some of these projects have been investigated and have been found to be very costly and unproductive. But I have picked out some of them for re-examination, and I am going to visit one or two places shortly and see if hydro-electricity cannot be produced in Andhra Desa somewhere. In any case, the Tungabhadra project will give us an opportunity of producing electricity in the neighbourhood of the proposed reservoir. In fact, we are working out a hydro-electricity scheme combined with irrigation scheme, in respect of the Tungabhadra project; and the

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Hyderabad Government will be doing the same thing from the waters they will be getting from the Tungabhadra reservoir.

" Mr. Hussain Sahib spoke in Hindustani, and I am very glad a Hindustani speech was delivered here. In speaking in Hindustani he has practically supported the Hindustani scheme of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister may also speak in Hindustani." (Laughter.)

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" But I am replying to the debate and I want to be understood by all."

MR. SPEAKER:—" But most hon. Members can understand Hindustani. The example set by Mr. Hussain Sahib may be followed by other hon. Members."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" I have spoken several times about the difficulty of supplying electricity to Malabar and South Kanara. From the answer to a question I gave the other day it would be clear that we intend taking up Pykara electricity to Tanur, from there to Calicut, and through Calicut to Cannanore. Mangalore is not far from Cannanore, and other places in South Kanara also will be served from there; and so we need not go to Mysore for hydro-electricity.

" There was another speech in Telugu by Mr. Ramakrishna 5-1
Raju, who said that electricity should be made available more and p.m.
more to the ryots in villages for it is necessary for their economic improvement. I quite agree. He suggested that in the Ceded districts wells are very deep and if electricity is made available to the people there, it will be very helpful to them in baling water. As the House is aware, we have bored one well in Cuddapah, which has gone to depth of 400 feet; water is being pumped out of it, by means of an oil-engine. We have lately sanctioned thermal stations for Tadpatri, Nandyal and Madanapalle. Thermal stations in these three places are provided for in the budget estimates for 1939–40. So, we have got schemes of electricity development for the Ceded districts. Just as we are distributing electricity in Andhra Desa from Vizagapatam, from Bezwada and from Cocanada, so also we have taken up the supply of electricity to the Ceded districts or Rayalaseema from the three stations that I have just now mentioned.

" Mr. Mansoor Sahib also suggested in his Tamil speech that electricity should be supplied direct by the Government to the consumers and he dwelt on this aspect at some length. In the case of Madanapalle we are having a thermal station there; and later on when we have developed considerable load in that neighbourhood, that station would be joined to Chittoor, which is connected with the hydro-electric power from Mettur."

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SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—" I pleaded for bette propaganda being made by demonstrators in the Agricultural department."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" About that, I may sa that the advantages of electricity are being extensively adver tised in Coimbatore and other places in Tamil Nad, and we hav *got a big programme of propaganda* by means of hand-bills pamphlets, etc., for making electricity popular. In the same wa this propaganda will also be extended to Rayalaseema and Andhr Desa when our schemes for producing electricity there hav advanced sufficiently. As we have large hydro-electric powe schemes working in the southern districts, all this propaganda i being done in order to increase the consumption of electricity i those districts. As our scheme for producing electricity in th northern districts develops we will also do electricity propagand there.

" When Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig stood up and began to sa that injustice had been done to some people, I thought that he being a Mussalman, would speak about injustice to Mussalmans But I find that territorialism was higher to him than communa lism; I hope he will, in course of time, go a step further an adopt nationalism. He referred to the appointment of 24 Assist ant Engineers. It was not the post of Assistant Engineer, bu it was the post of Junior Electrical Engineer. The appointmen of Junior Electrical Engineer is in the hands of the Chief Enginee for Electricity. The appointment being a technical appointment the selection of candidates is left to him entirely. Twenty-eigh Junior Electrical Engineers were wanted and it was advertise in the papers and the *Gazette* and several applications wer received. We already had four persons in view who were to h absorbed and out of these four, two were Andhras. For th remaining 24 appointments, the Chief Engineer had to take u first the communal rotation. Out of 24, we must have 4 Mussal mans, 4 Christians, 4 Brahmans, 2 Harijans and 10 Non-Brahmans Seven Non-Brahmans applied and he took 6 out of them an appointed them straightaway and only one was left out becaus of some disqualification. Of four Mussalmans that were require only two applied but they were not qualified. The Chief Enginee wanted to have Mussalmans. I also insisted that there shoul be some communal representation. I said, ' Are there no quali fied Mussalmans available for these posts? ' He replied tha there was only one qualified Muslim candidate but he was age barred. I said, ' Ask him to apply and I will give him exemp tion.' He applied and I got him appointed after giving hi exemption from the age rule. So all the Non-Brahmans wh applied got in. Of the Mussalmans only two applied, and the had not the proper qualification and I made one Muslim appl

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and got him exempted from the age bar. As for Christians, only one applied and he was not qualified. As for Harijans, no one applied. Therefore we could not get the required number of qualified people from certain communities for all the posts reserved for them, and so the remaining posts for which we could not get men from the particular communities concerned had to go to Brahmans."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I was speaking abount Andhras and non-Andhras and not about communities."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" So, out of four Mussal- answer than you asked for. There is no instruction to the Chief Engineer that so many Andhras, so many Tamilians, so many Malayalees and so many Kanarese should be appointed. There have never been any instructions to that effect. The question of communal rotation was raised again and again, particularly in the Budget debate and so many questions have been put to the Prime Minister regarding this question. I am in the Ministry and I thought that people would say, ' Here is a Muslim Minister and he has not appointed a single Mussalman to the post.' I really wished that some Member would put in an interpellation on the subject so that I might have an opportunity to explain."

MR. SPEAKER:—" They will hereafter raise the question."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" So, out of four Mussalmans required, only one Muslim was available and he was readily appointed. Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig spoke and said there were Honours graduates and people with very high qualifications among Andhras and so on. I do not know what is the case with regard to other departments, but in my departments we wanted technical knowledge. More Non-Brahmans would have been chosen if larger number of qualified Non-Brahmans had been available; and no Christian was appointed, because no one was available. So, this was how the communal rotation rule was disposed of. So, Brahmans only remained for the remaining posts. In selecting them extra scrutiny had to be made. Therefore those who were fully qualified and those who had one year's experience were given interviews by the Chief Engineer and the Deputy Chief Engineer. Both of them are Europeans and these candidates appeared before them. You cannot say that these two European gentlemen have got any territorial or communal bias . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has said it."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" It cannot be said that the claims of the different candidates were not properly considered. One after another all the candidates appeared before these two European gentlemen and all of them were fully qualified. Their appearance and other things had to be taken into account, and afterwards

these two European gentlemen compared notes and selected the can didates. *That is how the selection was done.* You cannot accus these Europeans of any territorial bias or anything of that sort It so happened that somehow four Brahman Andhras did not ge selected. Since the matter was brought to my notice, I sent for th Chief Engineer and the Deputy Chief Engineer, and we wen through the whole matter and selected two Andhras, and appointe them by raising the total number of appointments from 28 to 3(Then later on, on a technical ground, two candidates who had pu in 11½ and 11 months in practical training instead of 12 month were rejected and in their places we appointed the two Andhr Brahmans who had been interviewed before by the Chief Enginee Thus all the six Andhra Brahmans and one Andhra Non-Brahman who had applied, were appointed and no one was left out. All thi *adjustment* naturally *took time.* But before this could be done agitation was started and all sorts of bad feelings were produce and in one of the letters that came to me—it was from one Asso
5-30 p.m. ciation—it was stated that a no-confidence motion would be brough against me and I would be impeached. Of course I was amused However, it cannot be said that any injustice was done in the cas of Andhras.

" Now I have to speak about the policy of the Government an I have kept it as the last item of my reply. The policy of th Government is that in future all generation of electricity shoul be undertaken by the Government only. Our hydro-electri schemes have made great progress. We have taken up recentl the thermal schemes. Before we arrived at this stage of develop ment, whoever applied for an electric licence was given one. S many private licensees came into existence and they starte thermal stations all over the Presidency. There was a conditio in their licences that whenever electricity was available from *Government source they should take bulk supply from the Gov* ernment and change over from the thermal to hydro-electri system. Accordingly as hydro-electricity became available i their areas, these licensees were compelled to change over. Som of the private licensees have also begun to take electricity fro Government thermal stations. But still there are some priva licensees who are generating electricity themselves in areas whe it is not available from a Government station. Hereafter w will not give licence to any private company or local body t generate electricity. In the beginning we gave them licences b they have been taking electricity from the Government sour as soon as that becomes available to them. But hereafter n licensees will be given licence for generating electricity. The can only distribute electricity which is generated by the Gover ment. Acting under that policy we have provided thermal statio in the present budget for three places in the Ceded district Nandyal, Tadpatri and Madanapalle. We have done that a

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we have not given licence to any private company in these places. I may say, Sir, that some local bodies also have got generating licences.

"I may mention another point also and this may be interesting and useful. There are only two private licensees who are getting bulk supply from Pykara, ten licensees who are getting bulk supply from Mettur, six licensees who are getting bulk supply from Government thermal stations. There are fifteen local bodies who are getting electricity from the Pykara system. Under the Pykara system we have encouraged many municipalities to take electricity. In many cases we undertook the municipal electric schemes ourselves, made them a success and then handed them over to the municipalities concerned. There are five local bodies which are getting electricity from the Mettur system and three local bodies from the Government thermal stations. Altogether 23 local bodies are getting electricity from Government sources.

"As for distribution, we are, as I have pointed out, giving some local bodies direct supply of electricity. In some places the local bodies have been given licence for supplying electricity to the people in their local areas. In some places the Government themselves have undertaken the work of distribution. In future we will have to keep the distribution also in our hands. The reason is this. The licensees do not develop the rural areas. They neglect the rural areas. There have been many complaints about this matter and even some of the hon. Members have referred to it to-day. They have pointed out that the licensees do not develop the rural areas and that the Government should give direct supply to the villagers. So in future we will try to keep distribution also in our hands as far as possible.

"I hope I have touched on all the points raised by the several members. Last year in March when I moved this Demand hon. Members withdrew all their cut motions. They did not speak on their motions at all. Mr. Schamnad was the only hon. Member who moved his cut motion last year and he too withdrew it after my assurance. I said in my speech that at least in this department I had the satisfaction of having the support of the whole House without any exception. I hope I will be enabled to repeat the same to-day also."

Mr. Ari Gowder, the mover of the cut motion being absent, the cut motion was deemed to have been withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

III.—LANGUAGE OF THE HOUSE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before we go to the next Demand I wish to draw the attention of hon. Members to the request made repeatedly by Mr. Sheik Mansoor Tharaganar that he should be

enabled to know the proceedings of the House. On the 12th January this year in response to continued enquiries from hon. Members who do not know English I sent a demi-official circular to all hon. Members asking them to furnish specific information as to the languages in which they can follow the proceedings of the Legislature, the languages in which they can address the Legislature and whether with regard to English particularly, they were so acquainted with the language as to be able to understand the speeches in English well and to address the Legislature in that language clearly. By the 16th February we received replies from 118 members only and by to-day we have received replies from only 165 members. There are yet about 50 hon. Members who have not sent their replies. But from the replies so far received I find that as many as 26 hon. Members do not know English at all, not a word of it."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Do they know *Hindustani?*"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, some of them. Out of the 50 remaining members, on a rough calculation it is found that 13 more members do not know English. Altogether there will be about 39 hon. Members who do not know English at all. And of the rest, a large number of members cannot address this Legislature in English although they might be able to understand either fully or partially the speeches made here in English. All hon. Members whose mother-tongue is Malayalam or Kannada know English. Therefore they can follow the proceedings of the Legislature in English but probably some of them may not be able to address the House in English. These are the difficulties. In order that hon. Members who do not know English might follow the proceedings of the Legislature, I feel that the most convenient course will be for any hon. Member who speaks in English, if he knows Tamil or Telugu, to give the substance of his speech in Tamil or Telugu or Hindustani even.

"Of course the language problem cannot be solved unless and until this Legislature is divided into unilingual legislatures. We can only try our best to see that the proceedings of the Legislature are understood by everybody. The best way is for Ministers as well as other hon. Members who speak in English to also give the substance of their speeches in one of the recognized languages known to them. We shall now go to the next Demand."

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND XV—EDUCATION.

* THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"Mr. Speaker, before I move the Demand I should like to know how much time you will allow me."

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Mr. SPEAKER :—" As much time as the Minister can engage the House with great interest."

* The Hon. Sri C. J. VARKEY :—" Thank you, Sir, I beg to move—

> ' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 2,62,76,200 *under Demand XV—Education.*'

" This Demand comprises two service heads, namely, '36. Scientific Departments, etc.' and '37. Education.' The minor head ' Scientific Departments, Museums, etc.,' relates mainly to the expenditure on the administration of the Museum, the Connemara Public Library, etc. The provision in the next year's Budget is only for the normal charges and calls for no remarks. The major head ' 37. Education ' is subdivided into several minor heads, namely, University, Secondary Education, Primary Education, Special Education, General Education and Charges in England.

" Many proposals for educational reform are engaging the attention of the Government. But most of them have not yet reached the stage requiring Budget provision so that the provision made next year is, in the main, for carrying on the services on the usual lines. The Budget Estimate for 1939–40 is three lakhs in excess of the Budget figure for the current year. The last Budget provided only for Rs. 2,59,51,900 whereas the present Budget provides for Rs 2,62,76,200 thus providing an extra sum of Rs. 3,24,300 for Education.

" The following are the more important of the new schemes of expenditure provided for:— 5-45 p.m.

> " First, there is the provision of Rs. 12,000 for the introduction of the teaching of Hindustani in 100 secondary schools in the ensuing year, in addition to the 125 secondary schools in which it was introduced in the current academic year. The success of the scheme this year has emboldened the Government to extend the programme of expansion of Hindustani teaching, and a sum of Rs. 12,000 has been provided.
>
> " The second item is a provision of Rs. 27,000 for opening science courses in the Government Victoria College, Palghat.
>
> " The third item is the provision of Rs. 1,33,000 for building grants to secondary schools and colleges. As hon. Members of the House might recollect, no provision was made for building grants in the budget for the current year. The amount now provided for is nearly three times the amount needed to pay off existing commitments.

" It will be interesting for the House to know that this year we have provided for a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs to pay building grants

to the Pachayappa's College for shifting it to Chetput and developing it into a residential college. In the current year, we have given them Rs. 25,000; in this Budget, we are providing for Rs. 2 lakhs; and we may have to give them still about a lakh and a quarter. We are also providing for Rs. 25,000 for the Madras Christian College towards the promised amount of special grant; and we may perhaps have to pay something more to make up the original amount promised. As regards secondary schools and colleges, since last year no provision was made towards this item of expenditure, many schools and colleges are waiting for their due shares of the grant, and we have provided for as much as we could within the limitations of our present financial conditions.

" Then, the fourth item is the provision of Rs. 24,000 towards the employment of additional teachers in panchayat schools. It is expected that the new teachers that will be appointed will be teachers with a certain amount of proficiency in craft work, so that they might be in a position to handle the new or revised syllabus into which the Wardha spirit has been put.

" And the last noteworthy item is the provision of Rs. 1,03,000 more for contribution to local bodies for primary education. Last year we made a provision of Rs. 26½ lakhs, and this year we are providing an extra lakh, which is a clear indication that both local boards and municipalities are rising to the occasion and increasing their educational activities, and correspondingly the Government are contributing a sum equivalent to the taxes collected by them under the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

" Sir, these are the main features which call for any comments in regard to the financial provision. I do not propose to take up the time of the House at this stage of the debate, not being able to anticipate exactly what the hon. Members may ask for. If more light is required, I shall be ready—thanks to the generosity of the Hon. Speaker—to throw as much light as may be necessary.

" With these words, Sir, I move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,62,76,200, under Demand XV—Education."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" Mr. Speaker (hon. Members: ' Speak in Tamil '). I shall first speak in English and then give the substance in Tamil."

MR. SPEAKER :—" If you cannot make your speech in Tamil, you are entitled to speak in English."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" Sir, I beg to move the cut motion that stands in my name, viz.—

' *to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 2,62,76,200 *for Education by Rs.* 100.'

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"In doing so, I would like to confine my attention to the provision made in the Budget, for physical education. I find there is a physical instructor for boys' schools under the sub-head 37-I. That relates to secondary schools for boys; provision is made for a special senior physical director on Rs. 150—10—250. Sir, similarly, for girls' secondary schools, I find a provision for a woman specialist in physical instruction on Rs. 200 to 500. Apart from these two officers, I find there is no provision for any other staff. The importance of physical education has been realized by the educationists as well as by the public. It is not for me, Sir, to labour the point further than to repeat the old adage 'a sound mind in a sound body.' In the case of college students, there is not that insistence as in the case of secondary school children, in this respect, for the reason that college students are capable of looking after themselves. They know that physical exercise is very important and that unless they take proper exercise, it is not possible for them to continue to be diligent or intelligent. It is therefore more or less left to them to undergo the physical exercise meant for them. The college authorities also are taking very good care to insist on the college students devoting the time set apart for the purpose in undergoing physical training. If they escape that course, they have to explain or produce letters from their parents. In the case of the secondary schools for boys and girls, this training has got to be inculcated as a matter of compulsion more or less. It is therefore necessary that the supervising agency should be properly maintained in order to enforce physical education in secondary schools. We find, as I have already submitted, only two special appointments provided for in the Budget. Considering the total number of schools in this Presidency, it is not for me to point out how insufficient the provision made in the Budget is. We find there are 540 secondary schools for boys and 79 secondary schools for girls. Besides these ordinary schools, there are 78 training schools for boys and 65 training schools for girls. These large number of secondary and training schools, apart from elementary schools which number over 45,000, have to be looked after by these two special officers for whom alone provision has been made in the Budget. Sir, one can understand the inadequacy of the provision without any further reference to the matter. It is my submission to the Government that they should take this matter into consideration and appoint some more officers to conduct the supervision of physical education in the several schools throughout the Presidency. It may be a very good plan to divide the Presidency into northern and southern halves and appoint two officers for boys' schools and similarly two officers for girls' schools.

"This leads us to the question of the desirability of continuing the present arrangement by means of which an officer of the Young Men's Christian Association is requisitioned to control the

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physical education in our Province. When there are qualified men available in the Educational Service of our Province, there should be no need to go in for extraneous persons to control the affairs relating to physical education under this Government.

"Sir, coming to the matter of play-grounds, I find I have got even a worse tale to tell before this House than with reference to the question I just now referred to, i.e., with regard to the supervising staff. I find that the provision made for play-grounds in the Budget for 1938–39 has been omitted in the Budget for the ensuing year. In 1937–38, the provision for play-grounds for non-European schools was Rs. 7,500 in the revised estimate and Rs. 8,000 in the Budget estimate for the current year; but for the ensuing year, that provision has been completely omitted. So also, under the head 37-b, relating to Grants to local bodies, I find that the provision of Rs. 4,200 made last year and the current year for play-grounds, has been omitted. Adding these two items together, it comes to Rs. 12,000. Rupees 12,000 for the purpose of provision of play-grounds is not a very big sum, remembering the fact that we spend Rs. 2,62,00,000 on Education. It is nothing but a drop in the ocean. I do not see any reason for the total omission of this provision for play-grounds from the Budget. We know, as a matter of fact, that in the Madras City the setting apart of play-grounds is insisted on in every case High schools and colleges have large play-grounds set apart for the use of their students. Sometimes, if play-grounds are not available in the vicinity of the schools and colleges, wherever large plots are available, opportunity is taken to reserve a portion for the purpose. I may quote an instance: in the case of Sir M. C. T Muthiah Chettiyar's High School in Vepery, there is no playground anywhere near the school; but a portion of the Spur Tank ground is set apart for that school. This plot has been fenced around for the purpose of allowing the boys of the school in question to have their exercises there. So also, in the case of the Fabricius High School which is situated in a place devoid of any vacant sites another portion of the Spur Tank site has been set apart for that school. In the case of the Christian College High School, a portion of the Beach is set apart for the boys of that school to go during the appointed period for purposes of physical exercise When that is the case, when care is taken in all these high schools to set apart definite plots of land suitable for the purpose of imparting physical education, I fail to see the reason for the
6 p.m. Government dropping out even the small provision of about Rs. 12,000 from the Budget of the ensuing year. I would strongly appeal to the Government not only to restore those grants but also to make increased provision for physical education commensurate with the strength of the boys and girls in the various schools.

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" My next point is about the provision of a Government Training Institute for purposes of imparting training in physical education. We have only a borrowed institute, the Y.M.C.A. Training Institute. That is the only Institute that trains young men in the matter of imparting physical education. This sort of borrowing on the part of Government from other bodies should cease for it is high time that that habit is given up. The Y.M.C.A. has been looking after this work from 1915; we have run over a period of 24 years, and yet Government have not thought it fit to have an institute of their own. This speaks volumes against the interest taken by the Government in the matter of fitting up our boys and girls with regard to their physical health. I would therefore commend to the Government the necessity of opening a training school owned by Government and manned by the officers of Government and looked after by Government agency. I would draw the attention of the Government to the policy that is being pursued in other provinces. I find, Sir, that in Bengal the Premier, Mr. Fazul Huq, in reply to an interpellation in the Bengal Council stated that $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees have been set apart for the purpose of encouraging physical education, and that out of this amount $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs would be a recurring grant year after year earmarked particularly for purposes of physical education. While such progressive policy is being pursued in other provinces, it behoves this Province which is always in the forefront in the matter of schemes designed for the well-being of the people to have a similar provision for purposes of encouraging physical education."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Members who have not hitherto spoken will be given an opportunity to speak. Mrs. Kadija Yakub Hasan will speak."

* Mrs. KHADIJA YAKUB HASAN:—" I congratulate the Government on the various measures it has adopted for the betterment of the condition of the people. The object of my cut motion is to draw the attention of the Government to a few special pressing educational needs of the Muslim community.

" The scheme of compulsory elementary education has made very little progress, if any at all, in the last few years. Compulsory education should be made free in order to make it popular throughout the Presidency.

" One welcome feature of education in Madras during the recent years is the enormous growth in the popularity of education among girls. This popularity is not confined to any particular community. If one community has taken to women's education more than another, it is because the latter has a number of difficulties to surmount and obstacles to overcome. Muslim women in this respect are labouring under great disadvantages. There is only one Muslim Girls' High School in the whole Presidency.

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to Corporation schools provided for them in North Madras, they do not continue their studies after passing out of these schools. It cannot be said that these girls give up higher studies because they are so inclined. The fact is that it is impossible for Muslim girls of North Madras to proceed from their homes to the Hobart High School, Royapettah, which is situated far away unattended in rickshaws and bullock-carts.

" The Muslim community has been agitating for the last twelve years for the establishment of a high school for Muslim girls in Georgetown and it is high time that Government conceded this demand.

" The education of Muslim girls in the various districts of our Province is sadly neglected. There is not a single high school for Muslim girls anywhere. I strongly recommend the establishment of a Girls' High School in the Ceded districts, preferably at Kurnool, which has been demanding it for a long time.

" The hostel accommodation in the Hobart Training and High School is very limited. Over 20 girls are huddled together in an area which is hardly big enough for ten in a very distressing condition. Additional accommodation is urgently needed. Parents who wish to send their girls to Madras for education are prevented from doing so for want of proper hostel for Muslim girls. A tiffin shed is also urgently needed for over 400 students are dining in the open all over the place and they are very much inconvenienced in rainy weather.

" Government have kindly provided one bus last year, but this is not enough and some of the 400 girls still leave their homes at 6 in the morning and return at 7 or 8 in the evening in bullock-bandies. It is high time that the primitive forms of conveyance are done away with entirely.

" In order to popularize education among Muslim girls and to look after the interests of the female education of the Muslim community there should be Muslim Women Assistant Inspectresses specially in areas where Urdu is the mother-tongue of Muslims.

" Malabar is an important Muslim centre in this Presidency having about one-third of the entire Muslim population of the Presidency and as such, the education of Mappillas require special treatment.

" There is a training school for Mappillas at Malappuram which cannot serve the purpose of the girls as they cannot attend school with men. I submit, therefore, that the establishment of a separate training school for girls should receive Government's early attention.

" I am glad one Mappilla lady has been appointed as Sub-Assistant Inspectress of Schools in Malabar. More such lady inspectresses are required for popularizing girls' education among Mappillas.

"There is another point which I must stress. The Muslims in this Province are very poor and consequently they cannot bear the expenses of educating their girls. Apart from fee concession, the Government provide scholarships for Muslims, but it must be confessed that the number of scholarships provided is very small considering the Muslim population and their financial condition. I must request the Government to be so kind as to increase the number of scholarships for Muslim girls both in schools and colleges.

"I have briefly stated what are urgent requirements with regard to the Muslim women's education. There is no doubt many other points which deserve our attention but I have confined myself only to those which are very important and urgent, at present. I must say that we very much appreciate the Hon. Premier's intention to help Muslim education. Not long ago he assured this House that he would spend money like water on Muslim education and I hope he will take early steps to put his promise into action."

(Cheers in which the Ministers also joined.)

D. Saiyed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur and K. Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur rose from their seats.

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Members who have not hitherto spoken on the cut motions shall have preference in the matter of speaking."

* D. SAIYED IBRAHIM SAHIB Bahadur:—"I can speak in English but if you so desire, I will address the House in **Tamil.**"

Mr. SPEAKER:—"If you are inclined to speak in Tamil, you are welcome to do so."

*D. SAIYED IBRAHIM SAHIB Bahadur:—அக்கிராசனதிபதி அவர்களே, இந்த **cut motion**-ல் நான் இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களை சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். யாதெனில், முஸ்லீம் ஸ்கூல்களில் மூவர்ணக்கொடி ஏற்றும் விஷயத்தைப்பற்றியும் காந்தி அவர்கள் படம் போடும் விஷயத்தைப் பற்றியும் எந்த ஸ்கூல்களில் ஆக்ஷேபணை செய்கிறார்களோ அவ்விடங்களில் போடுவதில்லை என்று மந்திரிமார்கள் இவ்விடத்திலும் வெளியிலும் சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இருந்தும் சில முஸ்லீம் போர்டு ஸ்கூல்களில் இப்பொழுதும் போட்டு வருவதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அவ்விடங்களில் ஆக்ஷேபணை இருப்பதாக எனக்குத் தகவல் வந்திருக்கிறது. சென்ற மாதம் இவ்விடம் மீட்டிங்கு நடக்கும்போது இளையாங்குடி புதூர், சாலை, கிளாயூர், முதலிய முஸ்லீம்கள் வசிக்கக்கூடிய இடங்களிலுள்ள முஸ்லீம் போர்டு ஸ்கூல்களில் இவ்விதம் போடுவதாயும் அதை மாணாக்கர்களும், பெற்றோர்களும் ஆக்ஷேபிப்பதாகவும் அது விஷயமாய் அசெம்பிளியில் எடுத்துப் பேசவேண்டுமென்றும் எனக்கு எழுதியிருந்தார்கள். கனம் டிஸ்டிரிக்ட் போர்டு பிரசிடெண்டு அவர்களிடத்தில் சொன்னதில் கவனிப்பதாய் சொல்லி யிருந்தார்கள். திரிபுரி காங்கிரஸ்க்குப் போயிருந்ததால் இதை கவனிக்க முடியவில்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். கனம் மந்திரி **C. J. Varkey** அவர்களிடத்திலும் இது விஷயமாகச் சொன்னேன்; அவரும் கவப்பதாகச் சொன்னார். ஆனால் நேற்று வந்த கடிதத்திலும் "தாங்கள் ஏதோ டிஸ்டிரிக்ட் போர்டு பிரசிடெண்டையும் மந்திரி அவர்களையும் கண்டு பேசி இருப்பதாகவும் இது விஷயமாய் கலந்

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து பேசி கவனிப்பதாக எழுதியிருந்தீர்கள். இதுவரையில் ஒன்றும் நடைபெறவில்லை என்றும் பாதுக்கர்களும் பெற்றோர்களும் சத்தியாக்கிரகம் செய்யத் தயாராயிருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் ஆகையால் தயவுசெய்து இதை உடனே கவனித்து அவ்விதம் நடைபெறாமல் இருக்கும்படி செய்ய
15 வேண்டுமென்றும்" எழுதி இருக்கிறார்கள். இது விஷயமாய், ஒரு மாத
n காலமாகியும், யாதும் நடைபெறாமலிருக்கிறது ரொம்பவும் வருந்தத்தக்க விஷயம். இப்பொழுது முஸ்லீம் சமூகத்திற்கும் காங்கிரஸுக்கும் எவ்வளவுக்கு எவ்வளவு ஒற்றுமையும் நேசபான்மையுமிருந்ததோ அதற்கு நேர் மாறாக இவ்விஷயத்தில் இவ்விதமாகத் தலையிட்டு முரண் ஏற்படுத்திக் கொள்ளக் கூடாதென்பது என்னுடைய கோரிக்கை ஆகையால் கனம் **Education** மந்திரி அவர்கள் இது விஷயத்தில் தனது முழுக்கவனத்தையுஞ் செலுத்தி முஸ்லீம் போர்டு ஸ்கூல்களில் மந்திரியார்கள் சொல்லியிருக்கிறபடி எவ்விடங்களில் ஆக்ஷேபனை இருக்கிறதோ அவ்விடங்களில் மூவர்ணக்கொடியும் காந்தி படமும் போடாமல் இருக்கும்படியான ஏற்பாடு செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இந்தக் (**cut motion**) கட்மோஷனை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur rose from his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig, will you speak in Telugu? You know Telugu very well."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am going to speak with reference to Muslim education. I prefer to talk in a language that is known to the Hon. Minister for Education."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You need not be anxious about that. There are Parliamentary Secertaries who will give him the substance of your speech. You may speak in Telugu or Hindustani, if you like. If you cannot talk in any other language, you may speak in English."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I prefer to talk in English.

"Sir, I have given notice of two cut motions. The first is to elicit information as to the attitude of the Government in regard to the Wardha Scheme of education especially in regard to its application to the Muslims of this Province, and as to whether the Government have a separate scheme of education for Muslims in this Province.

(At this stage the Deputy Speaker [Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi] took the Chair.)

"And the *second cut motion is to urge on the Government* that a separate educational scheme for Muslims be drawn up by the Government in consultation and with the approval of the Muslim representatives and a separate allotment be earmarked in the Budget therefor with a view to safeguard the culture, religion and language of the Muhammadans.

"I must confess, Madam, at the beginning itself that I do not know what the implications of the Wardha scheme are. I may be excused if I say that most people do not know the implications of the Wardha Scheme. Recently, Madam, I wrote to the Secretary of the Legislative Assembly to send me a copy of the

Wardha Scheme and unfortunately I could not get a copy. The answer that I received was that there was no such copy available with the Government. That is the answer I received. So that is the reason why I ask for information as to the attitude of the Government with regard to the Wardha Scheme of education. It would have been better, Madam, if the Minister for Education had given us the scope and the details of the scheme. Of course in the papers there have been comments made on the Wardha Scheme, some saying that it is a 'craft-centred' scheme and some commenting that it is a scheme of education which would inculcate, training both to the eye and the hand. I must confess, Madam, the details of the Wardha Scheme are not known to me; at any rate, I believe that too many do not know what the Wardha Scheme is.

"Whatever that might be, now I invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to the necessity or otherwise of applying the Wardha Scheme to the Muslims; before I deal with the next cut motion, I would like to ask the Education Minister what the attitude of the Government is with regard to this Wardha Scheme. This Wardha Scheme has received divided attention in India; at least as far as Mussalmans are concerned, the majority of the Mussalmans —I do not know anything about it—have not liked it in any case. As far as I know the scheme as introduced in the Central Province has been definitely opposed by Muslims there. The scheme appears to be based on the Wardha Scheme. So, we, Mussalmans of this Province, want to be told, what kind of scheme is going to be adopted as far as Muslim education is concerned. I must confess that we are not in a position either to approve or disapprove of the scheme that may be in store for the Mussalmans in this Province. At any rate, I request the Government to clear one or two points in this connexion before this Wardha Scheme is applied to Mussalmans. I must invite the attention of Government, Madam, to the fact, that the Mussalmans are more particular about their cultural independence than about what is called political influence. For my part, as I have already stated on many occasions, political influence is of less value to me than cultural freedom. According to me, the life of an individual is not worth living without that freedom of life which gives him independence of his own culture, language and religion. If this Government are going to introduce any scheme of education without due regard to the culture, to the language and religion of Muslims, I might warn them that they would meet with an opposition which in the present circumstances of India is to be avoided. Some of the activities of the local boards, nay, of the Government in these educational institutions have created a sort of apprehension in the minds of Mussalmans, that their children will be nurtured in an atmosphere which is not congenial to the improvement of their culture, to the independence of their culture, language and religion. Tender minds

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of young pupils, Madam, are susceptible to all influences, of whatever kind they may be, that might be brought to bear upon them. If these young pupils are asked to read books, to associate themselves with the kind of worship which is opposed to their religion and culture, there is the danger of their forgetting their own culture. Let the Minister for Education keep these points in view when he attempts to introduce this Wardha Scheme of education. It may not be possible for a Minister who is not a Mussalman himself to realize what the representatives of the Muslims and responsible Mussalmans feel when a scheme of education which is opposed to the culture, religion and language of the Muslims is goiug to be imposed upon the Muslims. It may be his *bona fide* belief that what is he doing is good for the Mussalmans. I most certainly say that we do not accuse him of *mala fides* at all. But there is the possibility of his not realizing the importance that we Mussalmans attach to the education of our children in an atmosphere of culture different from ours. It is therefore, Madam, that I gave notice of this cut motion. I have clearly stated in the cut motion 'that a separate educational scheme for Muslims be drawn up by the Government in consultation and with the approval of the Muslim representatives and a separate allotment be earmarked in the Budget therefor with a view to safeguard the culture, religion and language of the Muhammadans.'

"It is well to remember, Madam, in connexion with education that every community in India is attempting to revive its past culture. As I said, political power is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end; and that end being, self-expression, self-development and in some cases, self-aggrandizement, I do say that every community has got the right to revive its past culture. Our Hindu brethern have got the right to revive their culture. We have no objection to that at all. What we Mussalmans say is that in your attempt to revive your Hindu culture, your Vedic culture, do not frame schmes by which the separate culture of Muslims is underminded. The Hindus or other communities have got the right to
10 revive their culture, their past culture and religion. The Mussal-
a. mans also have got an equal right to revive their culture and language and free their religion from outside influence. So in this cut motion what I urge upon the Government is that along with the scheme by which you seek to revive your past culture, you should have another scheme for Mussalmans separately by which they would try to revive and maintain their culture, and avoid a culture that is foreign to theirs. I know there are persons who are thinking of amalgamating the Islamic culture and the Hindu culture. I do not know whether an attempt of that kind would be fruitful and whether the Muslims will be a party to an attempt of that kind in which the culture of the Muslims who are in a minority may be swamped. I am giving expression to these ideas with a view to appraise the Government of the difficulties in any attempt

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to brush aside Islamic culture and to institute any scheme in which there is a danger of Muslim culture being swamped.

" I have no intention of referring to some features of the educational institutions, especially those maintained by local boards and municipalities. I was told that the Government are trying to avoid any conflict of sentiment wherever it occurred in schools, such as by way of the hoisting of flags, the hanging protraits and singing of ' Vande Mataram.' I am glad that the Government are trying to avoid these conflicts. This attitude must be welcomed and I have no doubt that in course of time the Government will pass orders by which these conflicts will be obviated.

" One more word, Madam, and I have done. Some of the municipalities and district boards have been collecting what is called education tax with a view to introduce what is called universal compulsory education. I do not know, Madam, in how many municipalities and district board areas this universal compulsory education has been introdused. I know as a matter of fact that for over six or seven years this education tax is being collected and it is accumulating in some municipalities, and municipalities now and then ask for diversion of this fund towards their general revenues. I am sorry to say, Mdaam, that universal compulsory education is not yet placed on a sound basis.

" I am not here to criticize the introduction of Hindi. But the urgent need, according to me, Madam, is the application of these funds for what is called universal compulsory education. It may be a matter of policy for this Government to introduce Hindustani, compulsory Hindustani. Personally I have nothing to say against it, but what I do object to, as I have already stated once before, is this. The only merit of democracy is the opportunity that is given to the people to oppose a measure of the Government, educate public opinion, convert public opinion to their point of view, and, if possible, to pull down the Government in power. When such an agitation with regard to the introduction of Hindi isbeing carried on, I am sorry to say, repressive laws are applied That, I submit, is not democracy."

*SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN.—" கனம் அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே. இந்தக்கல்வி டிமாண்டில் சிலவார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். இதில் முக்கியமாக, கனம் Mahboob Ali Baig அவர்கள் பேசினதைப்பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களைப் பற்றி. வார்தா ஸ்கீம் என்பது என்னவென்று இதுவரைக்கும் தெரியவில்லை என்று எனது நண்பர் Mahboob Ali Baig அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். பத்திரிகை படிக்கும் ஒவ்வொருவரும் வார்தா ஸ்கீமைப் பற்றித் தெரியாதவர்கள் இருக்கமாட்டோம் என்று நிச்சயமாய் சொல்லலாம். வார்தா ஸ்கீம் ஏற்பட்டு சுமார் இரண்டு வருஷங்களாயின. இரண்டு வருஷங்களான பிற்பாடு கூட வார்தா ஸ்கீமைப்பற்றித் தெரியவில்லை என்றால், பொதுஜன அபிப்பிராயம் எப்படி இருக்கிறதென்பதை பற்றித் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவில்லை என்று ஏற்படுகிறது. வார்தா ஸ்கீமைப்பற்றி நான் விளக்கவேண்டியதில்லை. அதைக் கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் விளக்கிச் சொல்வார்

கள். இருந்தபோதிலும் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் மட்டும் சொல்லுகிறேன். வார்தா ஸ்கீம் என்ற படிப்பானது, இப்பொழுதுள்ள படிப்பைப்போல் இல்லாமல் ஒரு தொழில் மூலமாகக்கொடுக்கும் படிப்பு தொழிலைக் கற்றுக் கொடுத்து அந்தத் தொழில் மூலம் எல்லாவிதமான பாடங்களும் கற்றுக் கொடுப்பது தான் வார்தா ஸ்கீம் (Wardha Scheme) என்பது. இதை நம்முடைய பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று இப்பொழுது எல்லா சர்க்காரும் வேண்டிய முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். நம்முடைய சர்க்காரிலும் இந்த ஸ்கீமை அனுஷ்டிப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய முயற்சி செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது உடனே இந்த வார்தா ஸ்கீமை நாம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியாமல் போனாலும், வார்தா ஸ்கீமின் தத்துவத்தை, அதன் ஸ்பிரிட்டை (spirit) அடுத்த வருஷம் முதல் வைப்பதாக நமது கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் சிறிது நேரத்திற்கு முன் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் இந்த விஷயத்தில் நான் ஒரு சந்தேகம் கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன். வார்தா ஸ்கீம் என்று சொல்லக்கூடியதைப் பூரணமாக அனுஷ்டித்து அடுத்த வருஷம் முதல் அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வரப்போகிறார்களா அல்லது வார்தா ஸ்கீம் என்றதின்பேரில் எதோ ஒரு பீரியட் அரைப் பீரியட் (period) கைத்தொழில் படிப்பு சொல்லிக்கொடுக்க போகிறார்களோ என்று தெரியவில்லை. வெறுமனே ஒரு (period) மாத்திரம் வைத்தால் அது வார்தா ஸ்கீம் ஆகாது. வார்தா ஸ்கீம் வைப்பதற்கு முதலாவது உபாத்தியாயர்களைப் பயிற்சி செய்ய வேண்டியது அவசியம். இப்பொழுது உபாத்தியாயர் பயிற்சிசாலைகூட இல்லை. உடனே வார்தா ஸ்கீமைப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் வைக்க முடியாமலிருக்கலாம். ஆனால் கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் வைக்கப்போவதாக இருக்கிறது. அப்படியானால் அதற்கு முதலாவதாக உபாத்தியாயர்கள் வேண்டும். அந்த உபாத்தியாயர்களைத் தயார் செய்ய பயிற்சிசாலை உடனே ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டும். கைத்தொழில் ஒரு period இப்பொழுது வைக்க உத்தேசித்திருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. ஒரு period க்குப் பதிலாக இரண்டு period வைக்கவேண்டும். என்னுடைய அனுபவத்தைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். மதுரை முனிசிபாலிட்டிப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் இந்தக் கைத்தொழிற் படிப்பைப் புகுத்த ஆரம்பித்து அதை இரண்டு period வைத்து நடத்தி வருகிறோம். அதனால் குழந்தைகளுக்கு அதிக உற்சாகமும் சந்தோஷமும் உண்டாயிருக்கிறது இரண்டு period வைப்பதனால் கொஞ்சம் படிப்புக் கெட்டுப்போகுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். 'இதர பாடங்கள் படிக்கிறது பாதிக்கப்படுமென்றும் சொல்லுகிறார்கள்.' பொதுவாகப்பார்க்கும்போது அப்படி ஒன்றும் அதிசமாகப் பாதிக்கப்படவில்லை. கொஞ்சம் பாதிக்கப்பட்டாலும், (syllabus) சிலபஸை மாற்றிவிட்டால் கொஞ்சமும் குழந்தைகள் படிப்பிற்குப் பாதகம் ஏற்படாது. இரண்டு பீரியடினால் குழந்தைகளுக்கு அபரிமிதமான சந்தோஷமுண்டாயிருக்கிறது. அதிகமான அக்கரை உண்டாயிருக்கிறது இதற்கு முன் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் அட்டென்டன்ஸ் (attendance) நூற்றுக்கு எழுபது பேர்கள் இருந்தால் இப்பொழுது நூற்றிற்கு எண்பத்தைந்து, தொண்ணூறு கூட இருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு கைத்திறமை அதிகம் உண்டாயிருக்கிறது. வார்தா ஸ்கீம் கொண்டு வருகிறதினால் லாபம் உண்டாகுமென்பது தெரிகிறது. வெறும் ஒரு பீரியட் இருந்தால் போதாது. பூர்ண வார்தா ஸ்கீம் வருவதற்குமுன் இரண்டு பீரியடாவது வைப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய syllabus உண்டாக்கவேண்டும்.

"இப்பொழுது கொண்டு வரப்படுவதாயிருக்கும் Wardha Sprit எப்படிப்பட்டதாக இருக்குமென்று தெரியவில்லை. அதை இந்த அஸெம்பிளிக்கும் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கும் முன்னதாகத் தெரிவித்தால் அது மிகவும் பிரயோஜனமாக இருக்குமென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். வார்தா ஸ்கீமில் மதப்படிப்பு Religious Instruction இல்லை. இந்த ஸ்கீமினால் மதப்படிப்பு பாதிக்கப்படும் என்று ஜனாப் மஹபூப் அலிபேக் சொன்னார். சிறு குழந்தைகளுக்கு Religious Instruction கொடுப்பது உசிதமாக இருக்காது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். நம்முடைய சிறு குழந்தைகளுக்கு நல்ல பழமொழிகள், ஹிதோபதேசங்கள், நல்ல நீதி வாக்கியங்கள்,

தர்மங்கள். தைரியம், ஆண்மை, உண்மை, சத்தியம் சமத்துவம், அன்பு, இவைகள் தான் மிகவும் அவசியம் இவைகளை கதைகள் மூலம், பெரிய வர்கள் சரித்திரங்கள் மூலம், மகான்களின் ஜீவிய சரித்திரங்கள் மூலம் கற்றுக் கொடுக்கிறபடி வார்தா ஸ்கீமில் இருக்கின்றன. கொஞ்சம் வயது வந்த பிற்பாடு Religious Instruction என்று சொல்லப்படுகின்ற தத்துவங் கள் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்தால் புரியும். Religious Instruction சாதாரண மாக எப்படி எதனால் குழந்தைகளுக்குக் கற்பிக்க முடியுமோ அதை இப்பொழுது வார்தா ஸ்கீமில் அனுஷ்டித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையி ல் அதைப்பற்றிப் பயமிருக்கவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை என்று தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

" இப்பொழுதுள்ள படிப்பு நிலைமை மிகவும் மோசமாயிருக்கிறது என்பதை நாம் அறிவோம். தற்காலப் படிப்பு நிலைமையினால் வேலை யில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் உண்டாகி இருக்கிறது. கட்டாயப் படிப்பு வைக்க வேண்டுமென்று முனிசிப்பல் சபைகளிலும் டிஸ்திரிக்ட் போர்டுகளிலும், பஞ்சாயத்துப் போர்டுகளிலும் நாம் பேசி வருகிறோம். நம்முடைய நாட் டின் நிலைமையில் இந்தக்கட்டாயப்படிப்புக் கொண்டு வருவது என்றால் சில சமயங்களில் எனக்கு மிகவும் வருத்தமாயிருக்கிறது. ஒரு குழந் தை பெற்றோர்களிடத்திலிருந்து வேலை செய்தால் அரை அணா, ஒரு அணா, இரண்டணா, சம்பாதிக்கிறது அது பெற்றோர்களுக்கு மிகவும் உதவி யாயிருக்கிறது, இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற நிலைமையை விட்டு விட்டு நாம் பலாத்காரமாய் குழந்தைகளுக்குப் படிப்பு கற்றுக் கொடுத்தால், நம் படிப்பினால் அதிக உதவியாயில்லை. நாம் கொடுக்கிற கட்டாயப்படிப்பு ஒரு குழந்தைக்கு ஐந்து வருஷம் கற்றுக்கொடுப்பதினால் அந்த குழந் தைக்கும் பெற்றோருக்கும் அதிகம் உதவி செய்ததாகத் தோன்றவில்லை. நம்முடைய படிப்பு நிலைமையை மாற்றி, படிப்பினால் குழந்தைகளுக்கும் பெற்றோர்களுக்கும் உதவியாக இருந்தால் நிச்சயமாக கட்டாயப்படிப்பு ஏற்படுத்தலாம். இன்னும் மேல்படிப்பின் நிலைமையை எடுத்துக்கொண் டால் மிகவும் வருத்தமாயிருக்கிறது. வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் நாட் டில் எல்லா மக்களிடத்திலிருந்தாலும் படித்த மக்களுடைய வேலையில் லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தைப் பார்த்தால் சகிக்க முடியாதிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழு துள்ள படிப்பு நிலைமையை சீர்த்திருத்தி ஜனங்களுக்கும் தேசத்திற்கும் உபயோககரமான முறையில் அமைக்கவேண்டும்; நமக்கு வேண்டிய மாதிரி உபயோககரமான முறையில் வார்தா ஸ்கீமில் படிப்பு அமைந்திருக் கிறது. என்பதை தேசம் பூராவும் ஒப்புக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இதை நம் நாட்டிலுள்ளவர்கள் மாத்திரமல்ல மேனாடுகளிலுள்ளவர்களும் இந்த வார்தா ஸ்கீம் சரியான ஸ்கீம் என்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். வார்தா திட்டத்தை வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் நம்முடைய பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவந்து ஜெய முறச்செய்ய வேணுமாய் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" இதற்கு training school கள் அவசியமாக வேண்டும். இதற்கு வே ண்டிய ஏற்பாடு எதுவும் செய்திருப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. அடுத்த வரு ஷம் ஆரம்பிப்பதாகச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்காக எந்த நடவடிக் கையும் எடுத்திருப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. மற்ற மாகாணங்களில், பம் பாய். பீஹார், ஒரிஸா ஐக்கிய மாகாணம் முதலிய மாகாணங்களில் ஆறு மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னே ஒன்றிரண்டு அல்லது மூன்று நான்கு training school கள் ஏற்படுத்தி வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். திரிபுர காங்கிரஸ் exhibitionல் மற்ற மாகாணங்களில் வார்தாஸ்கீம் படிப்பு முறையில் செய்த சாமான்களைக் கொண்டுவந்துவைத்திருந்தார்கள். அவர்கள் எல்லோரும் பாராட்டத்தக்க அவ்வளவு வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்திவருவதைக் காண்பித்தார்கள். நம்மு டைய மாகாணத்திலும் இதில் சிறிதும் தாமதமில்லாமல் இதைக் கூடிய சீக்கிரம் அடுத்த வருஷம் முதற்கொண்டே டிரைனிங் ஸ்கூல் ஒன்று அல் லது பல இடங்களில் அமைத்து பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய உபாத்தி

யுாயுர்களுக்குப்பயிற்சி அளித்து வெகுவாக உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். நம்முடைய கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு இது விஷயத்தில் விசேஷ அக்கரை உண்டு. இதைப்பற்றிப் புஸ்தகம் கூட எழுதியிருக்கிறார். இதில் அதிகம் தாமதமில்லாமல் அடுத்த வருஷம் முதற்கொண்டு ஒன்றிரண்டு **training school** கள் ஏற்படுத்தி **1940—1941**-ல் அமுலுக்குக் கட்டாயம் கொண்டு வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" **Girls Guide** களுக்கு மூவாயிரம் ரூபாய் கொடுப்பதாக பட்ஜட்டில் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறது. **Boy scout** களுக்கு சென்ற வருஷ பட்ஜட்டிலும் ஒன்றும் ஒதுக்கவில்லை இந்த வருஷ பட்ஜட்டிலும் ஒன்றுங் காண்பிக்கவில்லை. போன வருஷம் கொடுக்காததற்குக் காரணம் சொல்லியிருந்தார்கள். அதாவது சாரணர் இயக்கத்தில் ஹிந்துஸ்தான் சாரணர் இயக்கத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களென்று ஒரு பிரிவினரும் **Baden Powell**, பேடன் பவல் சாரணர் என்று வேறொரு சாரணர் இயக்கப்பிரிவினரும் இருப்பதாகவும் இரண்டுபேரும் தனித்தனியாக இருக்கிறவர்கள் ஒற்றுமையாக எப்பொழுது ஒன்று சேருகிறார்களோ அப்போதுதான் கொடுப்பதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். இந்த வருஷமும் "**Boys scouts** க்கு ஒன்றும் கொடுக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் இந்த வருஷம் **Girls guide** களுக்கு மூவாயிரம் ரூபாய் கொடுப்பதாகச் செலவு இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் ஹிந்துஸ்தான் ஸ்கவுட்டைச் சேர்ந்திருப்பதாயிருந்தால் நன்றாயிருக்கும். ஹிந்துஸ்தான் சாரணர் இயக்கந்தான் நமது தேசோத்தாரணத்திற் குதவியான இயக்கம். நம் தேச பழக்க வழக்கங்களுக்கு ஏற்ற முறையில் இது நடத்தப்படுகிறது. இந்த இயக்கத்தில் நம்முடைய தேசத்தினிடத்து அன்பும் அபிமானமும் இருக்கிறது மற்ற **scout** இயக்கத்திலே இந்த மாதிரியான அன்பு அபிமானமில்லை. இந்த **Girls guide** களுக்காக பணம் மூவாயிரம் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கப்பட்டதை ஹிந்துஸ்தான் சாரணர் இயக்கத்தைச்சேர்ந்தவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்."

5 *K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—
1. " Madam, Deputy Speaker, I have given notice of five cut motions under this Demand and I wish to speak at one stretch on them as briefly as possible. Madam, you will permit me to begin my speech by mentioning the educational needs of my district, namely, Kurnool. It has been my misfortune that I have got to rise up again and again on almost every Demand and speak about something or other for my district. But, if hon. Members bestow some consideration on the points that I have placed before the House from time to time, I am sure of their sympathy for all I have said and am going to say about my district. It was only last year that I spoke about the need for a Muslim Girls' High School for Kurnool. I am glad that Mrs. Yakub Hasan has very ably pleaded for us and has pointed out that if there is any place that stands in need of a Girls' High School for Muslims, it is the Ceded districts. When I plead for a Muslim Girls' High School, I do not want to be understood that I am asking it for the benefit of my own district, but if one school is opened it will be useful for all the four districts I have mentioned. I have already made representations about this matter to the Director of Public Instruction and have also made similar representations on the floor of this House last year and I hope this repeated demand of mine will meet with the approval of the Hon. the Minister.

23rd March 1939] [K. Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur]

"Then, Madam, coming to another important matter, namely, the appointment of an Urdu munshi for the Board High School at Atmakur, I may be excused, if I say that the answer given by the Government in reply to a recent interpellation put by me in this matter, was most unsatisfactory. The Hon. the Minister for Education said that the provision for Urdu munshi could not be made in the Board school because the number of Muslim boys there was very limited. I am of course prepared to admit that the number of Muslim students in that particular school is very small. But, are you able to understand the reason for this small number; and are you able to realize why the Muslim students do not go to that school for their education? It is because there is no provision for Urdu in that institution. Whenever we come forward with particular requests like this, the reply the Government give is that there is not a sufficient number of students for such management. May I respectfully submit, Madam, that if there is any place which requires provision for Urdu munshi in its high school, it is Atmakur?

"Madam, another important matter about my district which I wish to refer to is the rumour about the amalgamation of the middle school at Nandyal with the Municipal High School. This is a matter which has created panic in the minds of the people in the locality. There are two schools in that town and both of them are maintained by the municipality; one of them is a high school and the other one is a middle school reserved for Muslim students. But, whenever there is a question of effecting economies in the Municipal High School, they lay their hands on the middle school for Muslims. I do not see any reason why this Muslim Middle School should be touched. It is always in danger of being pounced upon by the municipal authorities whenever there is the question of economy. On this matter, I approached almost all the officers connected with the Educational department —Inspector of Schools, Deputy Director and Director of Public Instruction, the Hon. Minister in charge of Education—and I also spoke to the Hon. the Premier; and all of them gave me satisfactory replies. When the Hon. the Minister for Education was pleased to visit Bellary last time, I had the privilege of leading a deputation to him and after considering the memorandum which was placed in his hands, he was pleased to say that the question of amalgamation of the middle school with the high school would be dropped. I thought the whole matter had ended there. To my great surprise I learnt that the Government recently issued orders to the municipality that the question of amalgamation is not dropped for ever, but that the school would be amalgamated when it was found practicable. Is this the way to carry on the administration? You have given us a definite promise that the school will not be touched, but now, here is a proposal that the

school would be amalgamated if found practicable. Perhaps, on this occasion I may speak a word on a pertinent question and that is about maintaining denominational schools for various communities. The Congress is pledged to nationalism; and there cannot be separate schools for separate communities. I certainly see great force in that argument, but may I respectfully point out that there is another side to the picture as well. If Muslims want separate schools for themselves, it is not with the idea of having a communal school as such, but because they want to improve their culture and their tradition which they consider as their rich heritage.

" In this connexion, with your permission, Madam, I may be permitted to refer to the speech recently made by the Hon. Minister for Education at the Pachayappa's College 96th Anniversary Celebrations—and I thoroughly agree with the views he has expressed in that speech. He referred to the Hindu character of the Pachayappa's College mentioned by trustees in their memorandum and said that " if by Hindu character it was meant the fostering of Oriental learning and culture, he was one with them in thinking that by the side of other institutions fostering other cultures, there was room and space in this world for a prominent institution like this to foster such learning and culture. If by Hindu character they meant an embodiment of other age-long ideals as opposed to the strange gospel of intolerance which sought to divide the Hindu society on the basis of fanciful racial theories, he agreed that the Hindu character of the college was worth being preserved and protected. If by the term Hindu again they meant that the conservative force for resisting the destructive doctrines, the unhealthy *mantrams* and *tantrams* of modern days that were opposed to the glorious traditions of their ancient land, he welcomed the continued existence of the college. If by Hindu character they meant their ancient *dharma* which taught that teachers and students did not represent two antagonistic groups, that student organizations should not preach and practice passive resistance against teachers and educational authorities and that the relationship between the modern teachers and the students should correspond to the ancient ideal of a *guru* and a *sishya*, he was entirely in sympathy with what they preferred to call the Hindu character of the institution. But if the expression implied restriction of admission to Hindu students only, he was sorry he could not sympathize with such sectarian orientation being given to public institutions. But he conceded the right to private bodies of having such strictly sectarian schools if they liked out of their own private funds.

" Madam, I respectfully submit that the Hon. Minister for Education has taken up a very good position so far as the question of denominational schools is concerned and I congratulate him

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on the boldness with which he has avoided a wholesale and ruthless condemnation of sectarian institutions as is often done under the garb of 'nationalism.' I submit that what is true in the case of a Hindu institution is equally true of a Muslim institution. Madam, our institutions are not merely sectarian and I may be permitted to point out that provision has been made for admission of non-Muslim boys in Muslim institutions like the Muslim High School at Kurnool. In the Government Muhammadan College, Madras, for instance, non-Muslim boys can join up to 25 per cent of the sanctioned strength of the college. So, it is wrong to say that Muslim schools are thoroughly sectarian.

"There is another point I wish to mention and that is with regard to the policy of the Government in having arranged for the admission into the Madras Engineering College of certain students expelled from the Osmania University of Hyderabad, and it is a matter on which I must emphatically protest against the action of the Government. Here, I must make it clear to the hon. Members of this House that it is not my idea to say anything against the Bande Mataram song. That is a different question. The song may be good or bad one. But my contention is that the Madras Government have acted on a wrong principle in having arranged for the admission of the students who were expelled from a sister University. I wrote to the Registrar of the Osmania University and I have got a communication from him furnishing certain information asked for by me. He has clearly stated that those students disobeyed the orders passed by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Osmania University and that they even asked him to cancel the orders and retorted that the act they were forbidden to do would certainly be done. Unfortunately, these students—whether well-advised or ill-advised and whatever it was—continued their act of disobedience and they were subsequently expelled for breach of discipline. Of course I am also in sympathy with the expelled students. The trouble did not stop there. The day scholars also, who had nothing to do with these boarders, showed their sympathy with the expelled students and resorted to strike; and the result was that quite a good number of them also were expelled from the University. Madam, this deliberate breach of discipline and organized strike are more or less a revolt against the University. We have heard speeches from eminent men at Convocations and on other occasions that strike in a university or college is nothing but a strike against knowledge and culture. That being so, and subscribing as we do to that view here, is it not wrong on our part to encourage a strike in a sister University belonging to an Indian State? These students then came to you with a request for 7 p.m. admission into the Engineering College. I want you to realize the situation in which you were then placed. There was no room for these boys in the Engineering College. At the beginning of the year you had received a good number of applications for

admission and as there was limited accommodation, you admitted the required number and rejected the rest. Having done that, arrangement is now being made for admission of no less than 23 boys in spite of there being no accommodation for them. Secondly, you cannot make admissions in the middle of the year. Thirdly, you cannot make admissions without a proper transfer certificate and when a student comes from a foreign university you cannot admit him without a migration certificate from that university being produced. More than anything else you are bound by the moral code of conduct that governs the relations of one university with another and you know you cannot admit students who are expelled from other universities. But what is it that you have done? You did not insist upon the certificates required for the boys. You did not ask for a report from the Osmania University. It did not matter to you why they had been expelled by the other university. And then, when they came to you, you received them with open arms. Is this the policy that you must adopt in respect of a sister University? May I ask whether it is not a breach of etiquette and decency to have behaved like this with a sister University?

"There was a strike in the Annamalai University, but you adopted the right method of dealing with it. You discouraged the strike. You advised the students to cease striking and come to work. You upheld the prestige of the college, the prestige of the university and the prestige of the eminent educationalist who was governing the affairs of the university. If these expelled students of the Annamalai University had come to you for admission would you have permitted their admission? No, because they had been expelled by the university. But, unfortunately, so far as the Osmania University is concerned your attitude has not been the same. I anticipate that you may come forward with an argument that the Osmania University was wrong in placing a ban on the singing of Bande Mataram and the students were therefore, unjustly turned out of the university. My point is this. It is not for you to sit in judgment over a sister University. That university has acted on certain principles. The university thought that for certain reasons it was not desirable to allow these students to study in their colleges. The university may or may not be right. I am not here to defend it at all. But once it was known to you that the university had taken a definite attitude in regard to this matter, was it right on your part to sit in judgment over its action? Madam, it only appears to me that the Government have acted in this particular matter against the moral code that guides the relations of one university with another. They have acted in the manner in which they have done, because it was the Osmania University that was concerned in this matter. The example given to them by the Nagpur University in arranging for admission of such students was fully utilized

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without caring for the sentiments of Muslims in this Province. This incident is a sad commentary on your administration of this department with special reference to Muslims.

" There is one other matter to which I should like to refer and that is with regard to the teaching of Hindi in our schools. I must point out at the very start that I am not opposed to the introduction of this language. But so far as Muslims are concerned the Government have got to be a little cautious. The Government have given the option to the students to learn the language either in the Nagari or the Persian script. Very good. But we have got to see how far this option is working actually. Muslims are few in number in most of the schools. Teachers find it impossible to teach both in the Nagari script and in the Persian script. So even the Muslim boys are made to learn the language in the Nagari script. My suggestion is that Muslim students must invariably be taught in the Persian script unless their parents make it known to you that their boys may be taught in the other script.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

" Unless that written permission is given by the parents you must teach Hindustani to the Muslim students in the Persian script only. As I said at the beginning of my speech, I am not opposed to Hindi."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Are you coming to the close of your speech? "

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Yes. Sir. I am not against the introduction of Hindi. But my only suggestion is that the Government must arrange that Muslim boys are not made to learn the language in a script foreign to them, but must see that facilities are given to them to learn the language in the Persian script. The teachers who are appointed for the teaching of this language should be those who are conversant with both these scripts so that they may be able to teach the language in any or both the scripts.

" I suppose I have dealt with all the points that I wanted to. Before I close I once again request the Hon. the Minister for Education to pay special attention to the needs that I have mentioned so far as my district is concerned, viz., the establishment of a separate high school for girls at Kurnool, the appointment of Urdu munshi in the Board High School at Atmakur and the retention of the Muslim Middle School at Nandyal for ever."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Can the hon. Member give the substance of his speech in Telugu for the benefit of non-English knowing members? "

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I can speak in Urdu, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" So you do not know Telugu? "

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I know it, Sir. But I cannot put my ideas so clearly in that language."

* MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—" Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to speak on this grant, but I cannot resist supporting the very moving appeal which was made at the beginning of the debate in an exceedingly delightful maiden speech by my hon. and honoured Friend, Mrs. Yakub Hasan. That speech must have warmed a husband's heart, as indeed it warmed all our hearts. (Laughter.)

" Mr. Speaker, I have been 35 years in this country and in this Presidency and nothing in the course of that time has so impressed me as the tremendous advancement and emancipation of women in this Presidency which I can only hope is spreading all over the country. That is encouraging but it is not enough and my hon. Friend to whom I have already referred has shown how very little is being done in connexion with the advancement of the education of Muslim ladies generally. Well, it is said, and truly I think, that the first seven years of a man's life are his mother's. Perhaps the most important thing is that his mother should be adequately educated. Unless he is brought up in an entirely educated home and, unless the manhood of a country can be brought up in as far as possible cultured and, any way, educated surroundings he cannot derive that essential benefit in the earliest and most impressionable time of his life. Until that has been achieved, I feel that many men who might achieve eminence in this country will be debarred from doing so because they may possibly lack that very greatest of advantages. We have only to read the lives of many of the great men of this world to see to what an enormous extent they owe their greatness to their mothers who have been exceptionally intelligent and educated women. Intelligent women there are many in this country. I know of many such in Malabar who are truly heads of their tarwads and big families in Malabar. But, if to that great intelligence they possess was added considerable education, then I am certain that the advantage to the family that they bring up could not possibly be overestimated. I therefore lay great stress on this importance of advancing female education in this Presidency, and particularly, as my hon. Friend has shown us, the necessity for advancing and improving the very deplorable lack of opportunity for female education among the Muslims.

" The time is late, Sir, and I do not want to make any further remarks. I can only hope—and in fact, Sir, I know from what the Education Minister has done in connexion with female education in the case of other communities—that he will do all

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that is possible to give effect to, as I have already remarked, the exceedingly moving appeal made by my hon. Friend, Mrs. Yakub Hasan."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—" அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே, நான் இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களைப்பற்றிப் பேசுவதற்குமுன் எனது சகோதரி **Mrs. Khadija Yakub Hasan** அவர்கள் இன்று முதன்முதலாக இந்தச் சபையில் முஸ்லீம் ஸ்திரீகளுடைய கல்வியைப்பற்றிப் பேசினதற்காக என்னுடைய சந்தோஷத்தை தெரிவிக்கிறேன். அடுத்தபடியாக நான் கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட மானியத்தை ஆதரித்து இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். ஆரம்பப் படிப்புக்காக நமது சர்க்கார் சுமார் ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கிறார்கள் என்பது நம்மெல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம். இந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயில் நம் பொதுஜன ஆரம்பக் கல்வி எவ்வளவு தூரம் விர்த்தியாகவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு தூரம் விர்த்தியாகவில்லை என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். இதற்குக காரணம் கவர்ன்மெண்டிஞல் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் நாம் பொதுஜனங்கள் அதை உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்ற சிரத்தை எடுக்காததுதான் காரணம் என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். அத்துடன்கூட **Educational Council** அதாவது ஜில்லாக் கல்வி சபை ஒன்று இருந்து அந்தச் சபையின் ஆதரவில் ஒவ்வொரு ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிகூடங்களுக்கும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருந்த தொகை சரியான முறையில் வினியோகிக்கப்படவில்லை என்பது இரண்டாவது காரணம். அதிர்ஷ்ட வசமாக நம் கவர்ன்மெண்டு இந்தக் கல்வி சபைகளை எடுத்துவிட்டு கல்வி அதிகாரிகளின் மூலமாக இந்தத் தொகையை வினியோகஞ் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாக ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறது உங்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். இந்த முறையில் இனிமேல் சரியானபடி ஆரம்பக் கல்வியில் பணம் உபயோகிக்கப்படுமென்று நான் நம்புகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக இப்பொழுது நாளுக்குநாள் ஆரம்பக் கல்வியில் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு உணர்ச்சி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஒவ்வொரு கிராமங்களிலுங் கூட ஆரம்பக் கட்டாயக் கல்வி வேண்டுமென்று எல்லோரும் சொல்லிக் கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இதில் நான் என்ன வற்புறுத்துகிறேனென்றால் இதைப்பற்றி பேசுகிற ஒவ்வொரு அங்கத்தினர்களும், தங்கள் தங்கள் தொகுதியில் போய் கட்டாய ஆரம்பக் கல்வியை ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு முன்னால், இருக்கின்ற ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் நாம் எவ்வளவு செலவு செய்கிறோமோ அவ்வளவு அந்தக் கல்வியை பெறுவதற்கு குழந்தைகளை அனுப்புவதற்கு வேண்டிய சிரத்தையை அந்தந்தத் தாய்மார்கள் பெற்றோர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும்படி செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாக நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். இந்த ஆரம்பக் கல்வியை இதுபரியந்தமிருக்கிற ஒரு முறையில் ஆதித் திராவிடர்களுக்குத் தனியென்றும், முஸ்லீம்களுக்குத் தனியென்றும் ஹிந்துக்களுக்குத் தனியென்றும், கிறிஸ்தவர்களுக்குத் தனியென்றும், இம்மாதிரியாக தனித்தனி ஜாதிகளுக்காக பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வைப்பது சர்க்காருடைய கடமையல்ல. இது கூடாதென்பதும் என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். இதைப்பற்றி கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களும் தெரிவித்தார்கள். எனக்கு முன் பேசின கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அப்துர் ரஹிமான் கான் அவர்களும் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். எல்லோருக்கும் சர்க்காரால் ஒரே முறையான கல்வி கொடுக்கமுடியுமென்பதை எல்லோரும் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். தனித்தனியாக ஒவ்வொரு ஜாதிக்கும் கல்வி வேண்டுமென்று கேட்பது அவ்வளவு பொருத்தமானதல்ல என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். எல்லா சமூகங்களும் முன்னேறவேண்டியது அவசியம். அதிலும் ஸ்திரீகள், ஆண்களுக்கு நேர்பாதியாக இருக்கிற ஸ்திரீகள், முன்னேற்றமடையவேண்டியது அவசியமென்பதை வற்புறுத்துகிறேன். தனி ஜாதிகளுக்கென்று இல்லாமல் கூடுமானவரையில் கல்வி முறைகளை ஒரே

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பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் எல்லா ஜாதிகளும் வந்து வாசிக்கும்படியாக ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டுமென்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். இதைச் சர்க்காருடைய யோஜனைக்குக் கொண்டுவருகிறேன்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக ஸ்திரீகளுக்குக் கல்வி அவசியமென்பதைப்பற்றியும் ஸ்திரீகள் பாடசாலைகள் அவசியமென்பதைப்பற்றியும் கனம் Langley அவர்கள் சொன்னதை நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷமாக வரவேற்கிறேன். இப்பேற்பட்ட ஸ்திரீகளுடைய கல்வி விஷயமாகத்தான் நான் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் இங்கே சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது, ஆரம்ப பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் பெண் குழந்தைகளையும் ஆண் குழந்தைகளையும் ஒன்றாக வைத்துக் கல்வி கற்றுக்கொடுக்கலாம். தனித்தனியாக வைக்க வேண்டாம். ஆனால் இந்த ஆரம்பப் பாடசாலைகளில் ஸ்திரீகளையே உபாத்தியாயர்களாக நியமிக்கவேண்டும் என்பதாகத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். அடுத்தபடியாக ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை விட்டதும் ஸ்கூல் பைனல் (எஸ். எஸ். எல். சி.) படிப்பு படிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நடுத்தரக் கல்வி படிக்கவேண்டுமென்று விரும்பும் ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு வசதிகள் செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம். ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் வாசித்தால் மாத்திரம் சகல விஷயங்களையும் தெரிந்துகொள்ள சௌகரியம் இருக்காது. அம்மாதிரி ஸ்திரீகள் நடுத்தரக் கல்வியோ யுனிவெர்சிட்டிக் கல்வியோ (University Education) அடையவேண்டுமென்றால் அவர்களுக்குத் தகுந்த வசதி செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய கடமையாக இருக்கிறது. இதில் நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்வதென்னவென்றால் ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாக்களிலும் கூடுமானவரையில் ஒரு ஸ்திரீகளுடைய ஹைஸ்கூல் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்பதாக கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். எங்களுடைய திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் ஒரு ஹைஸ்கூல்கூட ஸ்திரீகளுக்குக் கிடையாது. பாளையங்கோட்டையில் மாத்திரம் ஸாரா டக்கர் காலேஜ் ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு இருக்கிறது. மற்ற இடங்களிலும் ஸ்திரீகள் படிக்க ஏராளமாக முன்வருகிறார்கள். ஆகையினால் ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு அந்த இடத்தில் போய் வாசிக்க வசதி இல்லாததினால் அவர்கள் செக்கண்ட் பாரம், தேர்ட் (Third) பாரத்துடன் நின்றுவிடும்படியாக இருக்கிறது. அம்பாசமுத்திரம் தாலூகாவைச்சேர்ந்த கல்லிடைக்குறிச்சியில் ஒரு ஹைஸ்கூல் ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு வைத்தால் மிகவும் சௌகரியமாயிருக்குமென்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். ஏன் அங்கே வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேனென்றால், அம்பாசமுத்திரத்தில் ஒரு ஹைஸ்கூல் இருக்கிறது; இரண்டு ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி ஸ்கூல்களும் இருக்கின்றன. கல்லிடைக்குறிச்சியில் ஒரு மிடில் ஸ்கூல் இருக்கிறது. இந்த மிடில் ஸ்கூலில் நூறு பெண் குழந்தைகள் படிக்கிறார்கள். அம்பாசமுத்திரம் ஹைஸ்கூலில் எழுபது பெண் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்கிறார்கள். இரண்டு (Higher Grade Elementary) ஸ்கூல்களிலும் ஏராளமான பெண் குழந்தைகள் வாசிக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஹைஸ்கூல் இல்லாததினால் அவர்கள் மேலே படிப்பதற்கு வசதி குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. ஆண் குழந்தைகள் வாசிக்கும் ஹைஸ்கூலில் பெண் குழந்தைகளைப்போய் வாசிக்கவிட பெற்றோர்கள் பயப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகையினால் இதை உத்தேசித்து கல்லிடைக்குறிச்சியில் ஒரு பெண்கள் ஹைஸ்கூல் வைத்தால் மிகவும் சௌகரியமாய் இருக்கும். இதைக் கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் நமது காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் நிறைவேற்றித்தருவாரென்பது என்னுடைய பூரணமான நம்பிக்கை.

"இதுவுந்தவிர யுனிவெர்சிடி (University)ப் படிப்பைப்பற்றி நான் ஒரு வார்த்தை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். நமது சென்னை மாகாண யுனிவெர்சிட்டியில், காலேஜில் சேர்ந்து வாசிக்கத்தான் முடியுமே யொழிய தனியாக வீட்டில் வாசித்து பிரைவேட்டாக பரீக்ஷை கொடுக்க வசதி இல்லை. நமது மாகாண (University Act)ல் அந்த மாதிரி பிரைவேட்டாக வாசித்து பரீட்சைக்கு உட்கார இடமில்லாதிருக்கிறது. கல்கத்தாவில், நாகபுரியில், (Benares)ல் அம்மாதிரி ஸ்திரீகள் தனியாக வீட்டில் பிரைவேட்டாக வாசித்து காலேஜ் எக்ஸாமினேஷ

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னுக்குப்போக இடமிருக்கிறது. அங்கேயுள்ள (University Act) யுனி வெர்ஸிட்டி ஆக்டில் அதற்கு இடமிருக்கிறது. மதராஸிலுள்ளவர்கள் அந்த இடங்களுக்குப்போய் தனியாக வீட்டிலிருந்து படித்துவிட்டுப் பரீட் சைக்கு உட்காருகிறார்கள். அண்ணாமலை யுனிவெர்ஸிட்டி ஆக்டையும் சென்னை யுனிவெர்ஸிட்டி ஆக்டையும் ஸ்திரீகளுக்குப் படிப்பு அவசியமென்பதை உணர்ந்து, ஸ்திரீகள் யார் யார் தனியாக பிரைவேட்டாகப் படிக்க இஷ்டப் படுகிறார்களோ அவர்கள் தனியாக வீட்டிலிருந்து பிரைவேட்டாகப் படித்து காலேஜ் எக்ஸாமினேஷனுக்கு உட்காரலாமென்பதாக போதுமான மாறுதல் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அந்தந்த இடங்களில் காலேஜில் சேர்ந்து வாசிக்கலாமென்று நினைக்கலாம். ஸ்திரீ களுக்கு இங்கிலீஷ், தேச சரித்திரங்கள் அவசியமில்லை. இந்த தேச சரித்திர விஷயங்களைமட்டும் பார்த்தால் போதும். (Practical) பிராக்டிக் கலாக படிக்கவேண்டிய படிப்பு ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு அவசியமில்லை. ஆக வே, அவர்கள் காலேஜில் சேராமல் வீட்டிலிருந்து வாசித்து பரீட்சைக் குப்போகலாம். இதற்கு வேண்டிய வசதி அளிக்க இந்த யுனிவர்ஸிட்டி ஆக்டில் மாறுதல் செய்யவேண்டும்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக ஹிந்தியைப்பற்றிச் சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும் புகிறேன். கனம் மெம்பர் மாபூப் அலி பேக் அவர்கள் 'இதுவிஷய மாய் விரோதமாகச் சொல்லவில்லை. ஆனால் ஜனங்களுடைய அபிப்பிரா யத்தைத் தெரிந்து அவர்களுக்கு இஷ்டமான பிரகாரம் செய்வதை நான் விரும்புகிறேன்.' என்பதாக தெரிவித்தார்கள். வாஸ்தவத்தில் இங்கே சில மெம்பர்கள் ஹிந்திக்கு விரோதமாக கேள்விகேட்பதினாலும், எந்த மானியத்தைப்பற்றிப் பேசுவதாயிருந்தாலும் இதே ஹிந்தி விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி விரோதமாக அடிக்கடி பேசுவதினாலும் இது சம்பந்தமாக மறியல் நடப்பதைப்பற்றிப் பேசுவதினாலும் இதைப்பார்த்துப் பொது ஜன அபிப் பிராயம் குறையுமென்பதாகக் கனவிலும் அந்த அங்கத்தினர்கள் நினை க்கவேண்டாம் "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" சென்னையில் பார்த்தால் தெரியும். "

* SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—"ஹிந்தியைப்பற்றி பொது ஜன ங்களுக்கு ஆதரவிருக்கிறதா இல்லையா என்பது வெளியில்போய் பார்த் தால் நன்றாகத்தெரியும். சென்னையிலும் இன்னும் சில இடங்களிலும் மாத்திரம் பார்த்தால் போதாது. கிராமங்களில் போய் பார்த்தால் ஹிந் திக்கு ஜனங்கள் ஆதரவு இருக்கிறதா இல்லையா என்பது தெரியும். "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" அங்கும் பார்த் தாகிவிட்டது. "

*SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—"கிராமங்களில் ஹிந்தியை எலி மெண்டரி பாடசாலைகளில் கூட சொல்லிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஆசைப்படு கிறார்கள். ஒரு குழந்தையாவது ஹிந்திப்படிப்பு படிக்கமாட்டேன் என்று சொல்வது கிடையாது. குழந்தைகள் ஐந்தாவது வகுப்பிலிருந்து ஹிந்தி கற் றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்பதாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஹிந்தி படிப்பு விஷ யத்தில் எவ்வளவு குதூகலம் பெற்றோர்களுக்கு இருக்கிறதென்பதை எனது நண்பர் Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan அவர்கள் வந்து பார்க்க வேண்டுமென்பதாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். ஆகையினால் இந்த வருஷம் கூட நூறு பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஹிந்தி வைத்திருப்பதைப்பற்றி என் னுடைய சந்தோஷத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன் நமது சர்க்காரில் பணமிருந்தால் இந்த மாகாணம் பூராவும் ஹிந்தியை ஒரே நாளில் வைப் பார்கள். நாங்கள் சந்தோஷமாக இருப்போம். பணக்குறைவினால் கொஞ் சம் நாள் நீடித்துக்கொண்டு போகவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஹிந்தி பாஷையை எப்பொழுது எல்லோரும் கற்று முன்னுக்கு வருகிறோமோ அப்பொழுது தான் இந்தச் சபையில் தமிழில் பேசவேண்டும், தெலுங்கில் பேசவேண்

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டும், ஆங்கிலத்தில் பேசவேண்டும் என்பதில்லாமல் ஒரே பாஷையைத் தெரிந்து எல்லோரும் ஒரே பாஷையில் பேசும்படியான சந்தர்ப்பம் வருமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரிக்கிறேன் "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Hon. Members who have not spoken on the cut motions relating to other Demands will be given preference. But as this Demand has to be finished to-day, I can allow only three minutes to each Member."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Sir, this is a very important Demand and many members are anxious to speak. They are rising on all sides of the House to speak."

MR. SPEAKER :—" They rise to speak because we have encouraged them to speak in Tamil." (Laughter.)

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" I am very happy to know that you are encouraging hon. Members to speak in Tamil, and that Tamil is being encouraged here in this House."

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is certainly the case. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition will hereafter speak only in Tamil." (Renewed laughter.)

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது கொடுத்திருக்கிற உத்திரவினால் மற்றவர்களுக்குக் கொஞ்சமும் கஷ்டமில்லை. தங்களுடைய உத்திரவுப்படி நடந்துகொள்ள சந்தோஷமுடையவனாக இருக்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" ரொம்ப சந்தோஷம்."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" தமிழ் நாட்டில் என்னைப்போன்ற தமிழர்கள் தமிழில் பேசும்படி சந்தர்ப்பங் கொடுத்ததற்காக என் சார்பாகவும், தமிழர்கள் சார்பாகவும் எனது மனமார்ந்த வந்தனத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" பொதுவாக ஒரு வார்த்தை சொல்லி முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" We will see how the proceedings develop."

SRI ANNAMALAI PILLAI rose.

MR. SPEAKER :- " நீங்கள் உட்காருங்கள். "

* DR. M. ABDUS SALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, . . ."

* MR. SPEAKER :—" Cannot the hon. Member speak in Telugu? "

* DR. M. ABDUS SALAM :—" I want to speak in English."

MR. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Member prefers English to other languages, he is welcome to do so."

* DR. M. ABDUS SALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw
a. the attention of the Hon. Minister to a certain glaring injustice done to the poor students; that is, how some of the parents are

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put to much difficulty and inconvenience by the school authorities inasmuch as they demand full fees from the poor students, who are certified to enjoy the half-fee concession. The pupils who fail in a class and those who are detained from appearing for the public examination have to pay full fees. Consequently, as most of the parents are very poor, they have to keep their children at home. So I would request the Hon. Minister to issue instructions to the educational authorities not to enforce the payment of the full fee from the failed and detained students.

"Then, Sir, it is well known that in most of the institutions, generally the portraits of national leaders are hung in conspicuous places. For instance, in the Venkatagiri Raja's College in Nellore they have not only the portraits of the Indian national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Subash Chandra Bose, etc., but also of the Maharatta Emperor Sivaji. Very recently Dr. C. R. Reddi, the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University, was invited by the college authorities to preside over the anniversary of the Urdu Literary Association and unveil the portrait of Mr. Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the only accredited leader of the Muslims of India. It was the college authorities who invited Dr. C. R. Reddi and it is they who have not hung the unveiled portrait of Mr. Muhammad Ali Jinnah along with the portraits of other Indian national leaders. The Muslim students were taken aback when they learnt the next day that the authorities were not for hanging the portrait in the college lecture hall. Every one knows, Sir, that Mr. M. A. Jinnah is admired by the Muslims as Mahatma Gandhi by the Hindu brethren. Such being the case . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What do you want the Minister to do? Do you want him to issue instructions to the college and high school authorities not to hang the portraits of any of the Indian national leaders? (Laughter.) Can he enforce it in the case of private institutions?"

* DR. M. ABDUS SALAM:—"Yes, inasmuch as the Government give grants to those institutions, they can do it; otherwise they can withhold the grant. Such being the case, Sir, the college authorities are not justified in not giving the same treatment to Muslim leaders. When both the Hindu and Muslim pupils study in one institution, the same treatment has to be meted out to the leaders of both the communities. Many of our leaders are trying day in and day out for Hindu-Muslim unity. Such being the case, Sir, if the seed of disunity is sown in high schools and colleges, the students of which are to be the future leaders of our country, I do not think that Hindu-Muslim unity can ever be dreamt of. Unless and until this unity is achieved, Sir, there will be no salvation for our country. If the college authorities were not for the keeping of the portrait along with those of the other

Indian national leaders, they ought not to have invited Dr. C. R. Reddi to unveil the same. Up till now there is no such precedent in the annals of the college. Therefore, I request the popular Government which is for the safeguarding of the interests of the minorities, Sir, to issue instructions not to wound the feelings of the Muslim pupils but to have the portrait of Mr. M. A. Jinnah hung with those of the other Indian national leaders.

"Then, Sir, the Muslims of Nellore have been requesting the Government for the past two decades to convert the Municipal Muhammadan Middle School into a high school. The same request was made to the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, the then Minister for Education, when he opened the new premises of the Municipal Muhammadan Middle School exactly a year back; and I am told that he was kind enough to give the Muslims an assurance that he will try to satisfy the community as early as possible. We do not request the Government to open all the higher forms all of a sudden; but if they open one higher form after another, within four years, the long felt need of our community will be achieved. From the following fact, Sir, the hon. Members will realize that the demand of the Muslims of Nellore is just. After our children finish Third Form in the Muhammadan Middle School, we have to send them to either of the High schools in the town, where the medium of instruction is Telugu, a language not known to our children. And it takes some time for our young pupils to grasp Telugu, so much so, these pupils have to remain in the same form for a year or more. Thus, the pupils for no fault of theirs have to suffer. And as I already said, failed pupils have to pay full fee, and as they cannot afford to pay it they have to keep at home. Hence I request the popular government to kindly help the education of our Muslim children by giving a high school for the Muslims of Nellore.

"As regards the Muslim girls' education I do not want to add anything more to what Mrs. Khadija Yakub Hasan has said."

MR. SPEAKER :—" For the benefit of those who do not know English, can you not translate what you said in some other language? Can you not speak in Urdu? Will you give the substance of your speech in two minutes?"

* DR. M. ABDUS SALAM :—" I think all the Muslim members know English."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is for the benefit of non-English knowing members who know Urdu."

Dr. M. Abdus Salam then spoke in Urdu.

After a few seconds he remarked thus:—

"I suppose the Hon. Minister for Education is able to understand me." (Laughter.)

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MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not for the benefit of Hon. Ministers at all. Hon. Member knows full well that non--English knowing members have been demanding the right to know the proceedings, and hon. Members who prefer to speak in one language should help other members by giving the substance of their speeches in Hindustani, Tamil or Telugu, because there are about 30 or 40 members who do not know English at all."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" Most Hon. Ministers know Hindustani, and even those who do not know Hindustani are studying it, and in a short time all of them will be able to speak also in Hindustani." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Hon. Ministers will have to know all the languages." (Laughter.)

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" May I know how many Ministers know Hindi? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Almost all the Ministers."

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—" I submit, Sir, there are very few here who do not understand English and who know Urdu."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Even if there are even half a dozen members who do not know English, there are several Tamil or Telugu knowing members who do not know English but yet know Hindustani.

" Dr. M. Abdus Salam then finished his speech in Urdu." 7–45 p.m.

*SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"సభాధ్యక్షా, విద్యాశాఖా మంత్రిగారు వివరంగా వలయు మొత్తములు కోరినతరువాత ఇంత చర్చకు అవసరము లేదనుకొన్నాను. కాని కృష్ణా జిల్లా ముస్లిము సభ్యుడు మిత్రుడు మహబూబ్ అలీబేగ్ సాహేబుగారు మాట్లాడిన తరువాత కొంత మాట్లాడుటవసరమని తలంచితిని.

" వారు వార్ధా విద్యావిధానము నాకు తెలియదన్నారు. తరువాత తెలిసినట్లు నటించినారు. 'తెలిసీ తెలియనివిద్య తెలుపనశక్యంబు బ్రహ్మకైన' అని పెద్దలు చెప్పినారు. కావున వార్క్రిగారు మహబూబ్ అలీబేగ్ గారికి తెలియ చెప్పడము చాలా కష్టము. శ్రీ శాస్త్రిగారు 'వార్ధా విద్యావిధానమును గురించి ఒక పుస్తకమును వ్రాసినారు ఒక కాంప్లిమెంటరీ పుస్తకము మహబూబ్ అలీబేగ్ గారు సంపాదించి చదివినచో దానిలోని విషయములన్నియు చక్కగా విశదమగును. మఱియు వారు వార్ధా విద్యావిధానమనగా ఏమి?' అని అడిగినారు. వార్ధా అనే పేరులో ఏదో యొక గొప్పదోషమున్నదని తలచి అట్లా అడిగినారనుకొంటూను."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, I have not condemned the Wardha system of education. I have not said anything against it. I only said that in applying the Wardha system to this Presidency, certain things should be taken into consideration in applying that system to Musalmans."

[23rd March 1939

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO.—" నేను చెప్పినదానికి, వారు చెప్పిన దానికి సంబంధములేదు. వార్ధా విద్యావిధానమనగా : దేశములో నేటి రాజకీయములో ఎట్లు నూతనమార్పు చెందినదో విద్యావిధానములోగూడా నూతనముగా నేర్పడిన ఒక గొప్ప తిరుగుబాటు. నేటి పరిస్థితుల ననుసరించి విద్యార్థులను సర్వవిధముల దేశమున కాదర్శ ప్రాయులుగా తయారుచేయుటకే ఈ విధాన మేర్పడినది. విద్యయొక్క పరమావధి వివిధ విషయ విజ్ఞానార్జనము, స్వయంపోషకము అని యీ నూతనవిధానము బోధించుచున్నది. ఇస్లాము మతముయొక్క అభిప్రాయానుసారముకూడా విద్యయొక్క పరమావధి ఉద్యోగమే కాక జ్ఞానసంపాదనము, జాతీయాభివృద్ధి, విజ్ఞానవికాసముల యభివృద్ధి అనియే నా నమ్మకము. భారతజాతీయతా పురోభివృద్ధికి తోడ్పడుట కేర్పాటైన ఈ నూతన విద్యావిధానముపై ముస్లిము సభ్యులు అయిష్టముగా మాట్లాడుటలో ఏదో విశేషముండియుండును. ముస్లిము సభ్యులు ఉద్యోగములలో తమ కెక్కువ భాగము అవసరమని చెప్పడములో ఏదో కొంత అభిమానమున్నదని అనుకొంటాను. కాని విద్యావిషయములోకూడా ఈ వేరుబాటుతన ముండవలెనని కోరడము భారత జాతీయతకు ముప్పు. విద్య నభ్యసించుటలోనైనను అందరును కలసిమెలసి జాతీయ విజ్ఞానమును చూరగొనుటకు ప్రయత్నించినచో భారత జాతీయైక్యత అనతికాలములో స్థిరపడగలదు. సభ్యులు కొందఱు ఇస్లాము సభ్యత, ఇస్లాము సంస్కృతి, అందరితో కలిసిమెలసి విద్యనభ్యసించినచో నశించునని తలంచుట గొప్ప పొరబాటు. రాజకీయాధికారముకంటె ముస్లిం సంస్కృతి సంరక్షణమే మా యుద్దేశ్యమని ముస్లిము సభ్యులు పదేపదే చెప్పుట చాల ఆశ్చర్యకరము. రాజకీయాధికారములేక భారత దేశములో ఇస్లాము మతముగాని, ఇస్లాము సంస్కృతిగాని అభివృద్ధి చెందలేదు, చెందజాలదు. ముందుకూడా ఒక ముస్లిములే కాక అన్ని జాతులవారును ఏకైక భారత జాతీయతాసృష్టికి కలసిమెలసి రాజకీయములో సంపూర్ణాధికారమును సంపాదించిన ఇస్లాము సంస్కృతి, ఇస్లాము మతాభివృద్ధియేగాక భారత జాతీయాభివృద్ధి కూడా జరుగగలదు. కావున రాజకీయాధికార సంపాదనకు ముస్లిము సభ్యులు సర్వవిధముల సహాయపడ వేడెదను. నూతన భారతజాతిని సృష్టిచేయుటకు విద్యావిషయములోనైనను వేరువేరుగాయుండక అందరును కలసి చదువుకొనుటకును, సోదర భావముతో మెలగుటకును తగిన వసతులు కల్పించెదరని కోరుచున్నాను. దేశములోని ప్రజలను చిన్నవయసునుండి ఈ విద్యద్వారా ఏకదృష్టిలోనికి తెచ్చుటకై శ్రీ జకీరు హుస్సేనుగారు దూరాలోచనచేసి వార్ధా విద్యావిధానమనుపేర నూతన ప్రణాళికను తయారుచేసినారు. నిజముగు యిస్లాము భక్తుడతడు. దాని ననుసరించుట ముస్లిముల విధి.

"ఈ డిమాండులో మంత్రిగారు హిందూస్థానీ అభివృద్ధికి కొంత ఎక్కువ మొత్తము కావలెనని కోరినారు. దీనివిషయమై శ్రీమతి లక్ష్మీఅమ్మాళ్ గారుపన్యసించుచున్నపుడు మద్రాసు మహమ్మదీయ సభ్యుడు మిత్రుడు హమీద్ ఖానుగారు హిందీప్రచారమునకు ప్రజల ఆమోదములేదని చెప్పిరి. నేను వారిని కోరేదేమనగా : ఈ మద్రాసు వీధులలో తిరుగుచు ఈ అంటి-హిందీ అల్లరినిచూచి హిందూస్తానీ ప్రజల కవసరములేదని చెప్పుట సరికాదనియు ఏ జిల్లాకైనను సరే నాతోపాటువచ్చి ప్రజలలో ఎచ్చటనైనను ఏక భారతజాతికి ఒకే భాష సృష్టించవలెనను సంకల్పమునకు వ్యతిరేకముగానున్నారని చూపించినచో నేను మంత్రివర్గమువారిని ఈ హిందూస్థానీ నిర్బంధమును తొలగించవలెనని కోరుటకు ముందంజవేయుదును. హిందూస్థానీ భాషవల్ల హిందూ ముస్లిం సభ్యత

పెంపొందించుటకే దూరాలోచన చేసి దేశనాయకులు ఈ భాష భారతీయులెల్లరు నేర్వవలెనని నిశ్చయించినారు. భారత జాతియనగా, మహబూబ్ అలీ బేగ్ గారును కల్లూరు సుబ్బారావుగారని మతవిషయములో భేదములెంచక, జాతి మత విభేదములేక ఏక భారతజాతిగా చేయ సంకల్పించి, ఏక భాష ఈ జాతికి అవసరమని నిశ్చయించి ఈ హిందూస్థానీ నిర్బంధవిధానమును అమలుపరచుచున్న పరమ యుద్దేశ్యము. మఱియు ఈ భాషను నిర్బంధించుటలో తమిళ, కన్నడ, తెలుగు భాషల నణగద్రొక్కుటయు, హిందూ విజ్ఞానమును గాని ఇస్లాము సంస్కృతిని నాశనముచేయుటయు అభిప్రాయము కాదు. కావున భారత జాతియైక్యతకు హిందూస్థానీ భాష అత్యవసరమని హిందూ ముస్లిం శాసన సభ్యులెల్లరు యెఱుంగవలెను.

“ప్రాథమిక విద్యావిధానమునుగూర్చి శ్రీమతి లక్ష్మీఅమ్మాళ్ గారు చెప్పినారు. ఆమె చెప్పినట్లు పిల్లలకు ప్రారంభవిద్య యావత్తుకూడా సహజ శాంతస్వభావులగు స్త్రీలచేతిలో పెట్టి పిల్లలను తరిఫీదు చేయవలెనను యుద్దేశ్యముతో నేను సంపూర్ణముగా యేకీభవించుచున్నాను. నిర్బంధోచిత ప్రారంభవిద్యయే భారతదేశాభివృద్ధికి మూలకందమని గోఖలేగారు చెప్పినారు. ఈ ప్రారంభవిద్యాబోధనలోకూడా ముస్లిం మగపిల్లలకు వేరుగాను, ముస్లిం ఆడపిల్లలకు వేరుగాను, హిందువులకు వేరుగాను స్కూళ్లుండవలెనని కోరుట భావి భారతపౌరులగువారిని వేరువేరు భాగములుచేసి “ఎవరికి వారే యమునా తీరే” అన్నట్లు తయారుచేయడము దేశాభివృద్ధికి శ్రేయోదాయకము కాదు. గవర్నమెంటువారికి మతముల ననుసరించి విద్యావిధానము వేరువేరు నేర్పరచుటవల్ల ఎక్కువ వ్యయము చేయవలసివచ్చినది. ఈ వ్యయమును తగ్గించుటకు అన్ని స్కూళ్లను ఏకముచేసి ఒకే విద్యాపద్ధతి అమలు జరుపవలెను.

“ప్రాథమిక విద్యా స్కూళ్లు అనేక రకములుగానున్నది. జిల్లా బోర్డు స్కూళ్లని, ఎయిడెడ్ స్కూళ్లని, పంచాయితీ బోర్డు స్కూళ్లని విభాగములుచేయుట సరి కాదు. మఱియు ఉపాధ్యాయవృత్తిలోనుండి ప్రస్తుతము మంత్రిగానున్న శ్రీవారీ గారికి ప్రాథమికోపాధ్యాయుల కష్టములు తెలిసియేయుండును. ఆ కష్టములను నష్టములను నివారించుట వారి పని. డిస్ట్రిక్టు ఎడ్యుకేషనల్ కౌన్సిళ్లను తీసివేసిన తరువాత గవర్నమెంటువారు చేయవలసిన విధానమేమనగా: ఎయిడెడ్ స్కూళ్లను, జిల్లా బోర్డు, పంచాయితీ బోర్డువారి చేతులలోనున్న స్కూళ్లను ఏకముచేసి ప్రాథమికవిద్యావిధానముపై ఒక్క మంత్రినివేసి నిర్బంధప్రాథమికవిద్యావిధానమును దేశములో ప్రవేశపెట్టి చక్కని కృషిచేసి ప్రాథమికవిద్యనభివృద్ధిచేయుటకై మంత్రివర్గమువారు సహాయపడుదురని తలచెదను.

“తరువాత విశ్వవిద్యాలయములనుగూర్చి కాంగ్రెసు మంత్రి వర్గము వారికి విశ్వవిద్యాలయ సమస్య ఎందుకని ప్రశ్నించువారు కలరు కొందరు. వారికి నేను చెప్పు సమాధానమేమనగా, హిమవత్పర్వతము లేనిది సస్యశ్యామలమగు గంగా సింధు మైదానప్రాంతము లేదు. విశ్వవిద్యాలయములు విజ్ఞాన మందిరములు. విజ్ఞాన జ్యోతిని సర్వదిక్కుల ప్రసరింపజేయు కేంద్రములు. గంగా సింధు మైదానము హిమవత్పర్వతమునుండి ప్రవహించు జలధారల మూలమున ఫలవంతముగ ఎట్లొనర్చబడుచున్నదో అట్లే విశ్వవిద్యాలయములలో తరిఫీదుపొందిన విద్యార్థులు ఈ భారత భూమిని ఫలవంతముచేయ సేవకులై యొప్పుదురు.

[Sri Kallur Subba Rao] [23rd March 1939

"మద్రాసు రాజధానిలో మూడు విశ్వవిద్యాలయములున్నవి. అవి అన్నామలై విశ్వవిద్యాలయము, మద్రాసు విశ్వవిద్యాలయము, ఆంధ్ర విశ్వవిద్యాలయము. ఆంధ్ర విశ్వవిద్యాలయము విషయమై ఆంధ్ర ప్రజల గోడు అరణ్యరోదనగానున్నది. ఆంధ్ర విశ్వవిద్యాలయమునొక చిన్న కాలేజీవలె చూచుచున్నారు గాని దాని పేరుకు తగినట్లు చూచుటలేదనియు ఆంధ్రవిశ్వవిద్యాలయమునకు వలయు ధనసహాయము చేయుట ధర్మమని మంత్రివర్గమువారికి మనస్సులో లేదని చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఆంధ్ర దేశములో, ప్రకాశము పంతులుగారి జమీందారీ బిల్లు ప్యాసయినచో ఉన్నతవిద్య కడిపోవునని పుకారున్నది. ఆంధ్ర భూభాగములో ఇప్పుడెక్కువగా విద్యకు తోడ్పడువారు జమీందారులే. విజయనగరం రాజాగారి కాలేజీ, వెంకటగిరి రాజాగారి కాలేజీ, పిఠాపురం రాజాగారి కాలేజీలకు వారిచ్చు డబ్బు పోయిన తరువాత నిజంగా ఆ కాలేజీలు మూయవలసివచ్చును. ఈ గవర్నమెంటులో జమీందారీ బిల్లు ప్యాసై జమీందారీలు రద్దయిన సందర్భములో గవర్నమెంటువారు ఆంధ్ర విశ్వకళాపరిషత్తును చిన్నచూపుతో చూడకుండా ప్రజలయొక్క రోదనమరణ్యరోదనమనిపించుకోకుండా దానికి తగు సహాయము చేసి ఆంధ్ర దేశములోని ఆంధ్రుల విజ్ఞానాభివృద్ధికి, మనోవికాసమునకు తోడ్పడి వారి ప్రతిభను, ప్రావీణ్యతను పెంపొందింపవలెనని ప్రార్థించుచున్నాను."

MR. SPEAKER :—"సహాయమంటే ఎటువంటి సహాయము."

SRI K. SUBBA RAO :—"ద్రవ్యసహాయమవసరము."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I request the hon. Member, through you, Sir, to speak a purer Telugu so that some of us may understand it."

MR. SPEAKER :—"That is very pure Telugu."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—"He is speaking sanskritized Telugu."

MR. S EAKER :—"Yes, Telugu is a Sanskritized language."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"పూర్వము సంస్కృతసంపర్కముచే సంస్కరింపబడిన తెలుగుభాషలో నేను మాట్లాడుచున్నాను. మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వమువారు తమ బోస్తాలో హయ్యరు ఎడ్యుకేషను కెంత ఖర్చుపెట్టుచున్నారో పరిశీలించవలసినది. అందులో ఎక్కువభాగము ధనము తమిళ ప్రాంతములకే ఖర్చగుచున్నది. ఆంధ్ర భూభాగములో తమిళప్రాంతముకంటె తక్కువ ఖర్చగుచున్నదని తెలుసుకొని జాగ్రత్తగా ఆలోచించి ఆంధ్ర ప్రాంతములలోని విశ్వవిద్యాలయమునకును, కళాశాలలకును ధనసహాయము చేయుట ధర్మమని నా మనవి. ధనములేనిది విద్యాసౌకర్యములు జరుగుట కష్టము. ధనములేనిదే ఏ కార్యమును కాదు. ఆంధ్ర విశ్వవిద్యాలయమునకు నైజాము ప్రభుత్వమువారును, తిరువాన్కూరు మహారాజాగారునుచేరి లక్ష రూపాయలను విరాళమిచ్చినారు. వారి నీ సభాభవనమునుండి ఆంధ్రుల తరఫున అభినందించుచున్నాను. వారి పరమోద్దేశ్యము విశ్వవిద్యాలయములు విజ్ఞానకేంద్రములని, దేశాభివృద్ధికి తోడ్పడునవని అవి ఏయే జాతికి లేక ప్రాంతమునకు చెందినను విజ్ఞానపీఠములు గాన వాటి యభివృద్ధికి సహాయముచేసినారు. దీనినైనా మనమునందుంచుకొని మంత్రివర్గమువారు ఆంధ్ర ప్రాంతానికి విద్యాబోధనకు వలయు ధనసహాయముచేయ కోరుచున్నాను."

23rd March 1939] [Sri Kallur Subba Rao]

" అంతేకాకుండా కళాశాలలలో ఇంటరు తరగతులలో ముఖ్యముగా పారిశ్రామిక విద్య ప్రవేశపెట్టవలెను. వార్ధా విద్యావిధానములో పిల్లలు శిక్షణ పొందిన తరువాత ఇంటర్‌మీడియటు తరగతులలోని కేవలము విద్యయొక్క డిప్లమా కోర్సు రెండు సంవత్సరములలో పూర్తియగునది ప్రవేశపెట్టవలెను. ఈ రెండు సంవత్సరముల లోను ఎలెక్ట్రిక్ ఇంజనీరింగు, మెకానికల్ ఇంజనీరింగు మొదలగు పరిశ్రమల చదువు కాలేజీలలో పెట్టి విద్యార్థులను ఆ పరిశ్రమలలో తయారుచేయుట మంచిది.

: విద్యయనగా వేలకొలది పుస్తకములు చదువుటయు, పట్టపరీక్షలలో కృతార్థులగుటయు కాకుండా కాయకష్టముచేసి తమ జీవితమును కౌశలముతో గడుపుకొనుటకు తగిన శిక్షణపొందుటయు; అంతర్గర్భితమగు మానసిక, ఆధ్యాత్మిక శక్తుల నరయుటయు యని యెరుగవలెను. గవర్నమెంటువారు విశ్వవిద్యాలయములలో ప్రవేశపెట్టు విద్యా పద్ధతి యావత్తుకూడా దేశీయ పద్ధతుల ననుసరించి ఎన్ని మార్పులు తెచ్చిపెట్టుటకు వీలుండునో అన్ని మార్పులనుచేసి అన్నామలై, ఆంధ్ర, మద్రాసు విశ్వవిద్యాలయములలో తగిన సౌకర్యములు కలుగజేసి వాటిని సరస్వతీ పీఠములుగా తయారుచేయవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. "

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 24th March 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of he clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Extra steps taken to put down illicit distillation in the Salem district during 1938–39.

* 1008 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of cases of illicit distillation reported during 938–39 up till now in the Salem district;

(*b*) what the number was in 1936–37; and

(*c*) what extra steps are taken to put down the offence?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) 145 up to the end of February 1939.

"(*b*) 317.

" (*c*) The reports from time to time published indicate the steps taken."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether those who ommitted these offences committed them for business purposes r for personal use? " 6-10 p.m.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" As far as we could infer from the cases, they were not for business purposes but only for personal use."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" May I know whether according o the reports non-official efforts in this matter are waning radually? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It cannot be so put, Sir. Naturally non-official help goes up and down for various reasons, but every effort is made to keep non-official co-operation at its highest level; so much so that appeals made now and then for increased output of non-official help have been misunderstood by certain interests to mean a confession of failure, whereas that is not the fact."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" May I ask whether illicit distillation s lessening, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The answers that I have given show that in 1936–37 the number of cases was 317; whereas now up to the end of February 1939 it is 145. The figures speak for themselves."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" If illicit distillation is less, may I ask why the Special Police force is not reduced? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The two have nothing to do with each other. It is because the Police are there that illicit distillation is going down, let us take it. If we remove the cause, the effect also would be different."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Sir, the questions and answers are not at all intelligible to us."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I will make the answers intelligible."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" Is it the policy of the Government that even in places where there is no crime, the Police force should be kept up to its original strength? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" This hypothetical question does not call for an answer, because there is no place where there is no crime."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" I mean crime in proportion to what existed earlier."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Surely, we cannot graduate the number of policemen according to the waning or increasing of crime from month to month."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether there are any reports received by the Government from the *Chittoor and Cuddapah districts with regard to illicit* distillation? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Yes, Sir, every month."

Cut in the salaries of public servants.

* 1009 *Q.*—SRI K. VENKATAPPAYYA: With reference to the proposal for imposing a cut in the salaries of public servants in the Presidency envisaged in the speech of the Hon. the Prime Minister when introducing the Budget for 1939–40, will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the percentage of the cut proposed is; and

(*b*) what the amount of saving anticipated by the cut is?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) Five per cent.

" (*b*) About Rs. 13 lakhs per annum."

th March 1939]

Sri G. KRISHNA RAO :—" May I know when this is going come into force? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The question was only about the proposal. The proposal has not yet become an order."

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad :— May I know from the Hon. Minister the minimum salary that ll be exempted from the proposed cut and also whether he is ing to bring this cut into force even during the first half of e coming financial year? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The proposal is yet to be ordered, Sir; the proposal is in respect of those persons who were not affected by the recent reduction of salaries. The question of the exact time when it would be given effect to depends upon the orders finally passed, which greatly depend upon the Secretary of State also."

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad :— Sir, in view of the enormous amount of money which the Governent are going to get from the Sales Tax, may I ask whether e Hon. Minister still thinks that it is necessary to have a lary cut also? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" There is not much connexion between the two; but if the Sales Tax Bill is passed and if we get plenty of revenue from the tax, we are going to reduce or abolish many other taxes and possibly we may even increase the salaries of officials, if it is considered proper."

Sri S. NAGAPPA :—" May I ask the Hon. the Leader of the use whether the proposed cut will affect people drawing Rs. 100 l above, or people drawing Rs. 50 and above? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Let me again repeat, Sir, I am only answering about a proposal. I may say the proposal is about officers drawing above Rs. 100 and not below, and it is about officers whose salaries have not been reduced recently and who have retained their old scales."

Sri G. RANGIAH NAYUDU :—" May I ask whether it is t a fact that the present salaries of Government officials are y heavy? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The officials consider that they are not heavy; we consider that they are."

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad :— In view of the statements made and answers given to various estions on previous occasions to the effect that our services are

highly paid, may I ask how the Hon. the Premier reconciles these statements with the statement he has now made to the effect that he will even raise their salaries?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The salaries are high when compared to our revenues; but if the problematic condition is reached when we get plenty of money from our new Sales Tax up to the extent of 30 or 40 crores, we may raise the salaries."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"By this means does the Hon. the Premier expects to get the sympathy of the officers for the Sales Tax which has been condemned by the general public?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Government officers have no opinion with regard to the policies of the Government." (The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'Hear, hear.')

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the statement of the Hon. the Premier that this matter is only in the stage of a proposal, may I ask whether there is a possibility of its being given up also?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is in the stage of a proposal. I insisted on it and emphasized it more than once for the reason that this Government is not the only Government that has a hand in disposing of it."

SRI P. S KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Am I right in presuming that the Leader of the Opposition accepts the principle of the Sales Tax in view of what he has said just now?"

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD.—"Mr. Speaker, I would like to have your ruling whether the Leader of the Opposition can answer questions in this House. If so, I will be pleased to answer the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You might."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD—"I am very grateful to you for your kind ruling which enables me to give a reply to the question. I can only say that the hon. Member should have followed my questions more closely. I want him to read the official reports and he will find that my questions could never give the impression that I am in favour of the Sales Tax."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether any proposal has been sent up to the Secretary of State for his approval and if so, in what stage the matter stands at present?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I do not think, Sir, that I should go further and place matters more or less confidential before the House."

24th March 1939]

Reduction in the travelling and daily allowances of peons.

* 1010 Q.[a]—SRI K. R. KARANT: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the travelling and daily allowance of peons in various departments of Government have been reduced after this Government took office; if so, by how much?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The only change made was to amend the rule relating to the travelling allowance of peons for journeys of more than ten miles performed in a public conveyance so as to permit them to draw the actual fare plus four annas daily allowance instead of mileage at one anna per mile. At the same time the rules were liberalized so as to permit daily allowance (in addition to the actual fare) for journeys not exceeding ten miles by a public conveyance when the return journey could not be completed on the same day."

Publication of the orders, if any, passed on the representations of village officers for permission to become Congress members.

* 1011 Q.—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any representations from village officers seeking permission to enrol themselves as Congress members; if so, what orders were passed thereon; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the orders passed in this connexion?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(b) After a very careful consideration of the pros and cons of the matter the Government have come to feel that it is not desirable to permit village officers to become members of any political organization and have passed orders accordingly."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"May I ask whether village officers who are on leave can become members of any political organization?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"During leave?"

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Yes, Sir."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"They cannot."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"May I ask whether the Government are aware that a village officer who was reinstated recently and is on leave is at present a member of the Upper Chamber, and that he is a member of the Provincial Congress Committee? May I also ask whether he can continue as such?"

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[a] The member was absent; the question was answered with the consent of the Speaker.

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If he had already been there before the orders were passed, it is a matter for consideration in due course."

SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know whether there is any difference between a village munsif and a village karnam?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"There is no difference. The hon. Member ought to have known it for himself."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—"May I ask whether representations have been received by the Government from the officials of district boards and municipalities to permit them to enrol themselves as Congress members?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The Government have no information, Sir."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that under an order of the Government, a village officer can stand for membership of a district board if he is on leave at a particular date, and he can become the president of the district board if he continues to be on leave as long as he is the president? Now that members of various political organizations are contesting the elections, can a village officer join a political party?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"All these aspects were considered before passing the orders referred to already."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know if these Government orders apply to all Government servants?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The question relates to village officers and the answer relates to them."

Disparity in the amounts spent on minor irrigation works in the North and South Arcot districts.

* 1012 *Q.*—SRI B. T. SESHADRIACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the reasons for a lesser amount spent on irrigation works in charge of the Revenue department in the North Arcot district than in the adjacent district of South Arcot (North Arcot—Rs. 95,594. South Arcot—Rs. 1,54,385) in the official year ending 31st March 1938, although the irrigation works in charge of the department are greater in number in North Arcot?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The number of minor irrigation works repaired in the South Arcot district during 1937–38 was 529 while the number repaired in the North Arcot district was only 272. The amount spent on the repairs in the North Arcot district was consequently less than that spent in the South Arcot district. The expenditure in any particular district in any year depends on the extent of

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repairs found to be necessary in that year. For the three years from 1933 to 1936 the expenditure in North Arcot exceeded that in South Arcot."

State of health of Sri E. V. Ramaswami Naicker in the Penitentiary, Madras.

* 1013 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Sri E. V. Ramaswami Periyar, convicted and undergoing imprisonment in the Penitentiary, Madras, is not keeping good health;

(*b*) what his weight was when he entered the jail and what his present weight is;

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to depute a physician of the General Hospital, Madras, to examine the health of Sri E. V. Ramaswami Periyar; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to place the report of the abovesaid physician on the table of this House?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) Sri E. V. Ramaswami Naicker is now in the Central Jail, Bellary. Apart from hernia, which is not a recently acquired complaint, he is in good health.

" (*b*) (i) 184 lbs. at the time of first admission to the Penitentiary, Madras (6th December 1938),

(ii) 177 lbs. on readmission to the Penitentiary after treatment in the General Hospital, Madras (11th February 1939) and on admission to the Central Jail, Bellary (17th February 1939),

(iii) 175 lbs. on 16th March 1939.

" (*c*) & (*d*) He has already been examined by the best physicians in the General Hospital, Madras. No further deputation of physicians is considered necessary. The Medical Officer, Bellary Jail, has reported his opinion that the present health of the prisoner is satisfactory in every respect."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, in view of the statement that Sri Ramaswami Naicker has lost a few pounds after going to Bellary, will the Government . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" 184 lbs. on admission into the Penitentiary on 6th December 1938; 177 lbs. on readmission to the Penitentiary after treatment in the General Hospital, Madras; and on admission to the Central Jail, Bellary, on 17th February 1939, the same; on 16th March, 175 lbs. The hon. Member is probably referring to the 2 lbs."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, if illustrations are necessary, this is one of the cases where if the answer to the question had been printed, it would have been more helpful. I have not been able to hear him well in spite of the fact that I am sitting very near him; and in spite of the microphone, this mistake has occurred.

" Anyway, Sir, I should like to know from the Hon. the Prime Minister, in view of the fact that Sri Ramaswami Naicker, while he lost about 7 lbs. in Madras at the time of his treatment, has lost 2 lbs. after admission into the Bellary Jail, whether the Government will consider the desirability of transferring him to Coimbatore, which, we consider, may perhaps increase his weight? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, I am not a doctor; but I have some experience in regard to these matters; and I may say that the difference of two pounds in weight should not alarm anybody. It depends very much exactly on when we weigh ourselves and what clothes we wear, and to some extent on the climate of the place also. Two pounds more or less is a matter of no concern at all. Further than that, I may mention to hon. Members that it is not only a decrease or increase in weight that is an index of health; it does not always follow that with regular compulsory habits such as we get in prison, the same weight can be kept up. It does not mean any difference in health."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, I have a recollection that with regard to clause (d) of the question, so far the Hon. the Prime Minister has not placed the report of the physician on the table of the House. Will he reconsider the question and place it before the House, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" At the time when this matter was gone into on a previous occasion, Sir, I practically read word for word all the relevant reports in this connexion; there is nothing new now to be placed before the House."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Will the Hon. the Prime Minister give us an assurance that he will issue orders to the senior medical officer of Government in the district—wherever Sri Ramaswami Naicker is taken—to examine him once a month and submit his report to the Government? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The Government will do all that they consider their duty to do, Sir."

SRI P. S. SRINIVASA AYYAR:—" May I know whether losing a few pounds by a person of Sri Ramaswami Naicker's age is not considered to he a sign of good health? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" As I have already said, mere weight going up or down is not a sure index of the condition of the health of a patient."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Sir, is an A-class prisoner subject to any restrictions as regards his diet, and is he at liberty to supplement his diet? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Yes, Sir. A-class prisoners are permitted to supplement their diet; the only restriction is that it should not be unhealthy diet."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" Sir, can an old man of Sri Ramaswami Naicker's type get an increase in his weight? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It does not depend on the age; but I may answer the question this way: that when a man has reached 70 and odd, it is difficult for him to put on flesh."

SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA:—" May I ask whether the weight figures have been corrected in respect of the personal equation of the balances in the different jails? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The hon. Member is referring to the somewhat common thing that we know with regard to the scales. They sometimes get wrong. But in this particular case, I may assure hon. Members that Messrs. Avery & Co., have examined and corrected all the various balances concerned in this case."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, will I not be in order if I ask the Hon. the Prime Minister to correct his answer with regard to the supplementing of the diet in the case of A-class prisoners, i.e., not only that no cooked food should be taken from outside, but no fruits or bread or anything like that can be taken as things stand at present? I think it is only under-trial prisoners that are allowed fruits from outside."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The diet for an A-class prisoner is the diet for a B-class prisoner, which comes to about Rs. 15 per month; but an A-class prisoner can supplement his diet with any article that he considers necessary, and which the doctor would allow to be taken, as not being detrimental to health, such as for instance, I may say, butter, ghee and any other weight-adding material like that. There is a certain amount of restriction with regard to cooked food coming in, and that is on account of the possibility of infection being brought into the prison."

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Regulations for the plying of motor lorries and buses.

* 1014 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state what became of the proposals of the Government—

(i) to prohibit motor lorries plying between 9 p.m. and 4 a.m.;

(ii) to cancel the driver's licence for being drunken while on duty; and

(iii) to prohibit the driver from smoking while driving a motor vehicle and the passengers from smoking while travelling in a public vehicle or conveyance when it is in motion?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"There is adequate provision in the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1938, and the Madras Traffic Rules, 1938, under which the statutory authorities can deal with such matters. The Government are not aware of these proposals to which the hon. Member refers."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Law what steps the Local Government have taken to correlate the various sections of the Motor Vehicles Act passed by the Central Legislature and the rules that have been framed under the Motor Vehicles Act of the Local Legislature?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I would like the hon. Member exactly to define what he means by correlation."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I mean, Sir, that several sections of these Acts overlap one another; for instance, the Motor Vehicles Act of the Central Legislature provides for provincial and regional committees, whereas the local Act has made a provision for a Central Traffic Board and District Traffic Boards."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think we are practically entering into a debate."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I only wanted to illustrate what I meant, since the Hon. Minister asked me what I meant by correlation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But not by way of a speech."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I put it in another way: whether the Government are considering the question of putting into effect the various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act of the Central Legislature?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Member must be aware, Sir, that the rules made by the Madras Government under their Act will be in force till a certain date when we will make rules under the Government of India Act which will then come into force."

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SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU :—" Sir, are there any reports from the public received by the Government about the drunkenness of drivers and smoking in the cars and buses that are plying for hire? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government have had no such reports."

Registration of unqualified practitioners of indigenous medicine and popularization of this system of medicine in rural parts.

* 1015 *Q.*—SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of unqualified practitioners of indigenous medicine who applied for registration each year since 1933;

(*b*) the number to whom licences or registration certificates were issued since 1933;

(*c*) the number whose applications were rejected and the reasons for the rejection;

(*d*) the number whose applications are still pending and the reasons for the delay in their disposal;

(*e*) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to popularize the rules on the subject; and

(*f*) the steps proposed to be taken to popularize indigenous family medicine in rural parts?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) The number of unqualified practitioners of indigenous medicine who applied for registration each year since 1933 is as shown below :—

1933	132	1936	345
1934	643	1937	892
1935	561	1938	6,301

" (*b*) Registration certificates were granted to 3,515 practitioners since 1933.

" (*c*) Forty-six applications were rejected; some because the applicants had not attained the prescribed age-limit and some because the certificates prescribed were not produced.

" (*d*) About 9,000 applications are still pending. A very large number of applications was received on or about the last date fixed for registration.

" (*e*) The rules were first published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* during June 1933. They were republished in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 13th July 1937 and the 20th September 1938. The rule relating to the last date for the registration of *hakims* and *vaids* was published in the district gazettes in the languages of the districts concerned in February 1937 and copies of these notifications were also distributed through the medical officers in charge of institutions of Indian medicine.

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" (*f*) It is presumed that by 'indigenous family medicine' is meant the practice of indigenous medicine by hereditary medical practitioners who do not possess any medical diploma and have not undergone any course in any medical school or college. No proposals for popularizing treatment by such practitioners is under consideration."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have arrived at the reason for the increase in the number of applications for registration in 1938 to six thousand? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It is due to the notification issued by the Government. The notification was issued in the different languages telling the people that this is the last year for registration and therefore many people applied for registration."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" May I know, Sir, whether the applications rejected on grounds of lower age or for not furnishing the certificates required will be considered again when they attain the prescribed age and submit the necessary certificates? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The age prescribed is 28 and those that applied at the time were above 28 years and therefore, they were not considered and it cannot be reconsidered again for they would not grow younger by six months after six months have passed. With regard to the certificates which could not be produced and on account of which registration had not been made, no regulation can be postponed, because those that applied did not conform to the regulations."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" Is there any proposal to extend the time, Sir? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Government have definitely declined to extend the time."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, what would be the approximate time that would be taken for disposing of an application? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It will depend upon the papers pending disposal."

DR. M. ABDUS SALAM:—" May I know, Sir, if any of these unqualified persons have been appointed in any of the local boards? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Yes, Sir."

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Reasons for the disparity in the treatment accorded to the rural medical practitioners in the matter of deputation for public health work.

* 1016 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Rural Medical Practitioners in charge of institutions of Western and Indian Medicine are not treated equally in the matter of deputation for public health work; and

(*b*) if so, what the reason is?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) It has recently been decided that practitioners in charge of rural dispensaries of Indian Medicine may be deputed for training in, and performance of, public health work as are practitioners in charge of rural dispensaries of Western medicine.

" (*b*) The question does not arise."

Redressal of the grievances of the operatives working in the X-ray departments.

* 1017 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the possibility of adopting the recommendations of the International Radium and X-ray Protection Committee;

(*b*) if not, why not;

(*c*) whether the non-medical men entertained after 1933 in the X-ray departments and made to work in the 'Radiations' are given any " danger allowance ";

(*d*) whether the Government contemplate any special leave arrangements to be made applicable to the appointees working in the said departments;

(*e*) whether the Government are aware that the skin and blood of the operatives are constantly exposed to danger resulting in permanent damage and disfigurement; and

(*f*) if the answer to clause (*e*) is in the affirmative, what steps the Government propose to take to minimize the grievances of the said operatives?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) The question of applying the International Radium Committee rules to the X-ray and radium workers employed in Government medical institutions in this Province is under the consideration of the Government.

" (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*e*) & (*f*) Information has been called for from the Surgeon-General in the matter."

Quantity of palm jaggery turned into sugar during 1937–38.

* 1018 *Q.*—Sri H. SITARAMA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of palm trees tapped for the purpose of preparing jaggery during the financial year 1937–38;

(*b*) the rates at which cane-jaggery and palm jaggery were sold on the average during 1937–38 and 1938–39;

(*c*) on what arrangement Messrs. Parry & Co. have organized the purchases of palm jaggery and cane-jaggery; and

(*d*) the quantity of palm jaggery turned into sugar during the last financial year?

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) Information is not available.

" (*b*) The average price of cane jaggery per imperial maund at various centres in this Province ranged from Rs. 1–14–1 to Rs. 5–7–10 during 1937–38 and from Rs. 3–4–2 to Rs. 7–14–11 during 1938–39 and that of palm jaggery from Rs. 2–2–11 to Rs. 6–0–2 during 1937–38 and from Rs. 2–10–5 to Rs. 4–3–8 during 1938–39.

" (*c*) Information is not available.

" (*d*) Approximately 14,672 tons of palmyra jaggery were turned into sugar during the calendar year 1938. Separate figures for this Province for 1937–38 are not available."

Scheme, if any, for the preservation of fruits in this Province.

* 1019 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for the preservation of fruit in this Province; and

(*b*) if so, what the scheme is?

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) The Director of Agriculture submitted a scheme for the creation of a central institute for research on fruit cultivation as well as on fruit preservation under a specialist. But the consideration of the scheme has been deferred for the present.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether it will be taken up soon, Sir? "

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" I hope so, Sir."

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Allotment of funds for " model villages " from the Rural Development Fund.

* 1020 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister)r Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the manner in which the funds set apart for rural evelopment are spent;

(*b*) whether there is any scheme for spending part of these ɹnds on what are called " model villages "; and

(*c*) if so, what proportion?

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) The Government of India grant for rural reconstruction is now being spent mainly by the Collectors on the following five categories of schemes:—

(1) Improvement of rural water-supply.

(2) Improvement of rural sanitation.

(3) Improvement of village communications.

(4) Encouragement of co-operative loan and sale societies by giving partial grants for the construction of godowns.

(5) Formation and encouragement of co-operative societies for consolidation of holdings.

" The execution of the schemes falling under the first three categories is ordinarily dependent on a contribution of not less than one-third of the cost of the schemes, in cash or in kind from the village or other area which is to be benefited. In regard to the fourth category a free grant equal to 25 per cent of the cost of godowns is sanctioned to co-operative loan and sale societies which erect godowns, the remaining 75 per cent being met from the funds of the society or from loans from Provincial funds at a cheap rate of interest. As regards the fifth category, two-thirds of the cost of obtaining encumbrance certificates and of registration, is met from the grant, the remaining one-third being met by the societies concerned.

" (*b*) & (*c*) No funds have been specially earmarked for expenditure on model villages. It is open to Collectors to utilize the grant on one or other of the categories mentioned in ' Model Villages ' as in other villages."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether there is any oposal to expand the categories in respect of which the rural construction grant is being spent? "

The Hon. Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Other than these five categories, no other items are mentioned."

Sri D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether 75 r cent of the grant still remains unspent in certain districts? "

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—"Is it not a fact that in some districts the grant has been fully spent up and in view of that will the Government be pleased to apply for a grant from the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"The Government of India have already sanctioned another grant for this purpose."

SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU:—"How much, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"About Rs. 14,00,000."

Applications for Government grant for the Harijan colony at Devakottah.

*1021 Q.—SRI MUTHU KR. AR. KR. ARUNACHALAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received applications for grant from the Harijan colony at Devakottah (Ramnad district); and

(b) whether the grant has been sanctioned; if not, why not?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) Applications for grants have been received from the Harijan Sevak Sangh, Devakottah.

"(b) It has been decided to give a grant of Rs. 350 to the Sangh during 1939-40 and necessary provision has been included in the Budget Estimate for 1939-40."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what the amount applied for is, Sir?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"Rs. 1,000."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know why the amount has been reduced to Rs. 350?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"The grant is made according to the rules."

Government help to the pyrotechnic match industry and oil milling industry in the Vizagapatam district.

*1022 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the present state of the pyrotechnic match industry and oil milling industry in Vizagapatam district to which Government had given some help, is;

(b) whether these industries have asked for more help; and

(c) if so, whether such help will be given?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) Information in regard to the present state of pyrotechnic match industry is not available but has been called for. The present position of the oil milling industry of Messrs. Boddu Paidanna & Sons is reflected in the profit of Rs. 1,525 earned by the concern for the year ending 31st March 1938.

" (b) & (c) Except for a request to reduce the rate of interest charged on a Government loan, no other help has been asked for. The Government could not see their way to reduce the rate of interest."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know what the rate of interis, Sir? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" Is not the interest very high, Sir? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" It is a matter of opinion, Sir."

Industries in East Godavari district receiving help from Government.

* 1023 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the nister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any industries in East Godavari disct to which any help is given by the Government; and

(b) if so, what these industries are and what the nature of help given is?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) & (b) Yes; the sugar and paper industries. Sri Ramakrishna Sugar Mills, Kirlampudi, have taken a loan of Rs. 50,000. The Andhra Paper Mills, Rajahmundry, enjoy the following concessions:—

(i) Grant of exclusive rights of cutting and removing bamboos from the Pulusumamidi range in the Rekapalle forests for a period of ten years at an annual payment of Rs. 8,000;

(ii) permission to purchase and remove waste paper and press cutting from Government offices under the control of the Provincial Government for a period of five years from 1st April 1937 at the rate of Rs. 28 per ton; and

(iii) permission to take water from the river Godavari at a concessional rate of Rs. 1-8-0 per 1,000 cubic yards for a period of one year from the date of commencing manufacturing operations."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether, while sing down the paper mills, they alleged that the Government e not given them sufficient facilities? "

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Sri B. S. MURTI :—" The Government are aware that th mills have been closed down."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know what the allege reasons are?"

Sri B. S. MURTI :—" The Government are enquiring int the alleged reasons."

Sri M. SUBBA RAO :—" ఆంధ్ర పేపరు మిల్సుకు ఇదివరకెంతమంది మేనే జింగు ఏజెంట్లుయినారు ? వీరెన్నవవారు ? "

Sri B. S. MURTI :—" దానికి కావలసిన భోగట్టా ఇప్పుడు గవర్నమెంటు వారిదగ్గర లేదని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. "

Sri M. SUBBA RAO :—" ఇప్పుడున్న మేనేజింగు ఏజెంట్లు సమర్థతతో పని చేస్తున్నారని గవర్నమెంటువారు తలుస్తున్నారా ? వారు పనిచేసి పేపరు తయారుచేసి దానిని అమ్ముచున్నారా ? "

Sri B. S. MURTI :—" సమర్థత, అసమర్థత అనేది కంపెనీ ఏవిధంగా నడుచుచున్నదో, దానిమీద ఆధారపడియుంటివి. అంటే, అది బాగుపడితే సమర్థ క్రిందవచ్చును, అది పడిపోతే అసమర్థత అనిపించుకొనును. "

Sri M. SUBBA RAO :—" అయ్యా, పేపరుమిల్సు ఇపుడున్న స్థితిలో గవర్నమెంటువారు కలుగచేసుకునే యుద్దేశ్యమున్నదా లేదా ? "

Sri B. S. MURTI :—" గవర్నమెంటువారు కాలాకాలము క్రిందటినుంచి కలుగ జేసుకొనుచున్నారు. పేపరుమిల్సు పెట్టినప్పటినుంచి కలుగజేసుకొనుచున్నారు. ఇండస్ట్రీసు డైరెక్టరుగారిద్వారా పేపరు మిల్సు information తెప్పించి, ఆ మిల్లు యజమానులు మంత్రిగారితో మాట్లాడేటట్లు ప్రయత్నము చేస్తున్నారు. "

Sri T. S. Chokkalingam Pillai rose.

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Let not hon. Members put their qustion straightaway. They should wait until their names are called."

Sri M. SUBBA RAO :—"అయ్యా, ఇప్పుడున్న మేనేజరుగారకు దయాల్ రాహ్ అందు నన్నువారి యుద్దేశ్యమేమో కనుగొనదలచినారా ? "

Sri B. S. MURTI :—" అదే మనవిచేసినాను. వారిని మంత్రిగారితో కలుసుకొనిమాట్లాడుటు కవకాశమిచ్చి దానిపూర్వాపర సంబంధములను ఆలోచిస్తారు. "

Sri M. SUBBA RAO :—"అయ్యా, ఆంధ్ర పేపరు మిల్సు పెట్టినప్పటినుంచియు 36 వందల వాటాదారుల ధనము 23 లక్షలరూపాయలు అందులోయున్నవని గవర్నమెంటువారికి తెలియునా ?"

Sri B. S. MURTI :—" ప్రజల సొమ్ము 23 లక్షల రూపాయిలేకాకుండా, ఇప్పటి మేనేజింగు ఏజెంట్లు 12 లక్షల రూపాయలు దానిపై పెట్టింనట్లు తెలియుచున్నది'

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SRI M. SUBBA RAO :—" అయ్యా, అయితే గవర్నమెంటువారు ఈ మిల్లును స్వాధీనము చేసుకొని ప్రజలరక్షణ నిమిత్తమై దానిని నడిపించే యుద్దేశ్య మున్నదా ? "

SRI B. S. MURTI :—" వాటాదారుల డబ్బు దుర్వ్యయమగుచున్నట్లు గవర్నమెంటువారికి తెలియును. ప్రస్తుత సందర్భములో ఆంధ్ర పేపరు మిల్సుకు గవర్నమెంటునుండి ఎట్టి సహాకారము లభించిన, మిల్సు నడుపబడి, ప్రజలకు మంచి కలుగునో అనే విషయాన్నే ఇప్పుడు గవర్నమెంటు ఆలోచిస్తున్నారు."

SRIMATHI A. V. KUTTIMALU AMMAL :—" I am not able to understand what is going on in the House."

SRI T. S. CHOKKALINGAM PILLAI :—" On a point of Order, Sir, I think the hon. Members have a right to know what is going on between the members and the representatives of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is certainly your right. But under the limitations of this House, English cannot be translated into Tamil and Telugu each time, and Telugu and Tamil cannot be translated each time into English. So a working arrangement was provided with regard to the English speeches delivered on the floor of the House, that those who speak in that language may also give the substance of their speech in Telugu or Tamil so that some sort of relief could be given to members who do not know English. But if English-knowing members also want to know Telugu or Tamil speeches, some solution will be found for it later."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" When anything very serious results from these interpellations or answers which are not understood by every one, I am here to help the Members. I am sure that if anything very serious results I shall certainly not let the opportunity go without explaining it to them so that every one may have a chance. This assurance also may be given, Sir." 3.45 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Premier may give the substance of what has passed on with regard to the supplementary questions on this question."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The substance of what has passed on is that some company or business has failed. Suggestions were made that the Government should render help. I was constantly watching whether my portfolio was being seriously affected by these. I am prepared to tell the House that the Government will not become a bank for bankrupt companies, but will have to be very careful about their moneys."

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Sri R. M. PALAT :—" It was remarked that when anything serious is going on, that will be translated. Is not everything serious here? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Everything is not *serious*. The whole House will not always be serious. Otherwise you cannot sit here for five hours at a stretch."

* The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Let me explain myself. I said ' serious ' in the sense of importance. I did not mean that we were less serious in other matters."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Matters of *serious importance*. Not that other matters are unimportant, but some matters are of serious importance."

Sri R. M. PALAT :—" Why should we waste our time here on unimportant matters, Sir? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" They are not unimportant. They are all important; but some matters are of serious importance."

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad :—" Will the Government consider whether it is not more desirable to take over these instead of giving loans to these badly managed concerns, if they are industries worth taking over by the Government themselves? "

* The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" That is a point to be considered and we wish it had been considered when the loan was given."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" As a reasonable number of supplementary questions have been put on this question we pass on to the next question."

Erosion of the coast cliff at Tellicherry by the sea.

* 1024 *Q.*—Sri M. P. DAMODARAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the coast cliff on which the Tellicherry Court Road (forming a part of the coast road from Calicut to Cannanore) runs, has been subject to occasional erosion by the sea since many years;

(*b*) whether the matter was represented to His Excellency the Governor of Madras on 6th November 1936, during his visit to Tellicherry;

(*c*) whether, in the memorandum presented by the Municipal Council, Tellicherry, to the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration on 6th October 1938 during his visit there, reference was made to the above matter; and

(*d*) whether any action was hitherto taken by the Government?

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SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*d*) The question of financing a scheme for the construction of a protective wall along the portion of the coast affected is under the consideration of Government."

SRI T. S. CHOKKALINGAM PILLAI :—" தயவு செய்து ஸ்ரீமான் பக்தவத்ஸலம் அவர்கள், தான் சொன்னதைத் தமிழில் சொல்லுவார்களா ?"

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"தலைச்சேரி கோர்ட்டு ரோடு கடற்கரை ஓரமாய் போவதைக் காப்பாற்றுவதற்காக ஒரு சுவர் கட்ட வேண்டும் என்று தீர்மானித்து, அந்தச் சுவர் கட்டுவதற்கு வேண்டிய பணம் எவ்வாறு கண்டு பிடிப்பதென்று சர்க்கார் யோசித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்."

Disbursement of contributions for elementary school buildings in villages.

* 1025*Q*.—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of panchayats or other bodies in the villages that were promised, before 14th July 1937, by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, a contribution not exceeding Rs. 500 for elementary school buildings;

(*b*) how many of the said bodies are yet to receive the said contributions;

(*c*) how many of them have applied for the promised contributions; and

(*d*) when the Government propose to disburse the said contributions?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) The Inspector sanctions grants only to panchayat schools and not to schools maintained by other local boards. He does not make any promise regarding the payment of these grants; what he does is sanctioning grants subject to availability of funds as and when the buildings are satisfactorily completed and a report to that effect is received from the panchayat boards concerned.

" (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) Building grants were disbursed for 17 schools during 1937–38 after 14th July 1937. It was not found possible to make any provision for these grants in the current year's budget."

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Scheme for the extension of compulsory elementary education to other areas.

* 1026 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any scheme for extending compulsion in elementary education to other areas; and

(*b*) if so, what that scheme is?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) & (*b*) There are no proposals for the extension of compulsory elementary education at the present moment."

SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Why not, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" The compulsory system of primary education was introduced under the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920. The initiative is to be taken by a municipality or a local board."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that certain municipalities are applying for compulsion but the Government are turning down those proposals? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" They must have been such that they cannot stand on their own legs."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that education tax is being collected by municipalities for a very long time? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" Certain municipalities are collecting taxes and the Government are giving grants as much as is collected by the municipality."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—" Is there any proposal to change the curriculum? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" It is not a supplementary question, though it is connected with education."

Present stage of the proposal to start a Reference Library at the headquarters of each district.

* 1027 *Q.*—SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to start a Reference Library containing all the important Government publications and Government Orders at the headquarters of each district; and

(*b*) if so, at what stage the proposal is?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Such a proposal is under consideration."

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[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—POINT OF ORDER *RE* THE LANGUAGE OF THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on Demand XV will be resumed."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I rise to a point of order, Sir. I want to refer to the ruling of the Hon. the Speaker yesterday that all Members should speak in vernaculars . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no question of vernacular. The word is tabooed on the floor of this House. The hon. Member should not use the word 'vernacular'. He must say either 'Tamil' or 'Telugu' or 'Kannada,' etc., the recognized languages of this Legislature."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I wish to point out, Sir, that section 85 of the Act . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Section 85! I think the matter was discussed fully on a number of occasions on the floor of this House and rulings were given time after time. I do not think we need take up much time on this question, unless the hon. Member has got any specific point to submit to the Chair. The old points need not be repeated. If there are any specific new points they may be submitted; the hon. Member is welcome to do so."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I submit, Sir, that speaking by gentlemen who know English, in any language other than English is against the rule."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Which rule? Will the hon. Member please read the rule that says that a Member knowing English should not speak in any other language?"

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Proviso to section 85 provides for making rules to enable persons unacquainted or not sufficiently acquainted with English to speak in any other language . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is a rule enabling people not knowing English to speak in any other language."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is only an enabling clause or proviso to enable people unacquainted or not sufficiently acquainted with the English language to speak in any other language."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Will the hon. Member please read any rule providing exactly literally that persons knowing English cannot speak in any other language?"

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* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Rule is made only providing for Members unacquainte with English to speak in any other language; otherwise the could not speak. There is no other rule made so far."

MR. SPEAKER:—" My ruling is that an enabling claus does not disable members. The mere fact that a particular claus enables one set of people, does not disable another set of people.

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" One is enabled, Sir, if a rule is made."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is my ruling . . . (Hon. Members: 'Order, order.') Mr. Schamnad, that is the ruling of th Chair. The provision enabling people unacquainted or nc sufficiently acquainted with the English language to use anothe language, does not disable persons knowing English from speakin in any other language. That is the ruling."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What I say is that a person unacquainted with Englis can speak in any other language. There is no provision anywher for a man who knows English to speak in any other language."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I add a few words to what my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, said?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" You may add a few words if you want t throw light; but the ruling is there."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker I think the Government of India Act makes it clear that th language of the Assembly shall be English. It is clearly under stood. There can be no two interpretations on this issue."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Whatever it may be, the opinion of th hon. Member may be given."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I must say that I believe that the language that will be spoken in thi Assembly shall be English; and in case one member is no acquainted with the English language, he can speak in his own language. Other members who can understand and who have spoken in English on other occasions, cannot be allowed to speak in any other language."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Any other Member wanting to speak? I shall allow a full debate upon this question and give an exhaustive ruling."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, as a lover of my mother tongue I do find it very difficult to put forward a strong case for English. But unfortunately this

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House is constituted and is functioning under this very Government of India Act, however much we may oppose it and however much we may be anxious to wreck it. The Government of India Act has been imposed upon this country; the Government of this country is carried on according to sanctions provided for in this book.

"Now, Sir, my object in getting up is only with reference to one other point. During the last two years there have been occasions when this matter has been brought to your notice and when you have given rulings, directions and suggestions which have been cheerfully agreed to and the proceedings of the House have gone on smoothly and pleasantly. Now, Sir, I should say that while there should be a liberal interpretation for the purpose of enabling Members to express themselves in any language in which they can express themselves well, every attempt has resulted in other difficulties, such as you recently pointed out, of innumerable translations this way and that way; these are not possible always. You will ask a Member of Government to give a summary when occasion demands. With that probably we will get on without much difficulty. I only rise now, Sir, with the object of requesting you to lay down as far as possible a working arrangement for the conduct of this House so that there may not be any further confusion on the point. While speaking on this, I may point out that my hon. Friends, Messrs. Schamnad and Hameed Khan are perfectly right in my own judgment with regard to the point of order they raised. Instead of my raising a point of order I straightaway support their point of order and do nothing else. As far as I can read English—I am not a great lawyer—section 85 reads like this."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Section 85 has been read a number of times." 4 p.m.

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad:—"There are only few copies available with the Members; all may not be able to rememher the section. It is as well you permit me to read it:

'All proceedings in the Legislative of a province shall be conducted in the English language: Provided that the rules of procedure of the Chamber or Chambers, and the rules, if any, with respect to joint sittings, shall provide for enabling persons unacquainted, or not sufficiently acquainted, with the English language to use another language.'

This presupposes, Sir, that English is the language in use and every Member who knows English should speak in English. It is only when one is not sufficiently acquainted with the English language that another language has to be used. Rule 46 of the Assembly Rules says:

'All proceedings of the Assembly shall be conducted in the English language, but any member who is unacquainted or is not sufficiently acquainted with the English language may address the Assembly in any recognized language of the Province.'

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All these being there, I only say, Sir, that technically th point of order now raised should have the sympathy of the othe Members and the Chair. We have to take into consideration al other Members. Even a Member like me who supports the poin of order to a great extent does not in any way suggest a thing whicl will obstruct and cause annoyance. If a person speaks in Telugu some Members understand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What is the suggestion that the Leader o the Opposition makes?"

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I started only to make certain submissions to you. I am not her to make suggestions. I am here to say that the point of order i perfectly just and at the same time we have other difficulties of a inherent nature which cannot be cured by a strict interpretatio of the Act and also by a very strict interpretation by the Chair I only request that all aspects may be considered and a workin arrangement given which will be satisfactory."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the Leader of the Opposition mak any suggestion?"

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, I have made my position very clear."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You have made no suggestion at all You are only making the position clear without making the sugges tion."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall make a suggestion, Sir. The suggestion is this: The only remedy is that you have to make a rule for enablin Members who are unacquainted with the English language or no sufficiently acquainted with English to enable them to speak i any other language. Unless you make a rule to that effect . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The rule is already there. Therefore i is no suggestion. Rule 46 is there. I want to see what every othe Member of the Opposition wants to say."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It would appea that provision is made for persons, who do not know English o who know it insufficiently, to talk in a language in which the can speak. It may be possible for Indians to say that we canno be said to know English sufficiently."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But still you speak in English."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In that view the general rule may be relaxed. The general rule is that every body shall talk in English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"'The proceedings shall be conducted in English'—that is the language employed."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But the pro-iso, Sir, says that in some exceptional cases, where a Member loes not know English or knows it insufficiently, he may be per-nitted to use any other language. It is a permissive provision. Only such of the persons who do not know English or who know t insufficiently shall be entitled to talk in any other language."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is not the question. There are Members, as many as three dozen or more, probably very many nore, who cannot understand the proceedings in the English anguage. What is the suggestion that you make?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a matter of opinion, Sir. These rules do not prevent the Chair from asking persons who know the language to translate the speech into another anguage. This section only refers to a language in which the proceedings should go on. It does not prevent the Chair from alling upon one Member to translate for another Member."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It might ook, Sir, that this discussion has been somewhat of a waste. Some Members may imagine that we are spending away time to no pur-ose. It is not quite correct to go away with that impression. It s a very important thing. It comes again and again. That shows hat there is something fundamentally wrong in the whole arrange-nent. The rule referred to makes two provisions: the first which vas read just now is a mandatory-looking provision with regard to he language in which the proceedings shall be conducted; and hen there is the proviso. I submit that if it is the intention of hose who raised the point of order that nothing should be done xcept in such a manner as is provided and if it is interpreted n that way, you must only have a policeman to preside over the House and no Speaker at all. It is the intention of the framers of he Act that every Assembly of this kind should have a Speaker who should exercise his mind in regard to all difficulties that arise nd assist the conduct of the proceedings to be carried out usefully n matters which cannot possibly be covered by rules made for the urpose. Here we have a rule which has been interpreted to mean hat it is only when a man does not know English sufficiently that e can speak in any other language. There is no provision here by which persons who do not know English can understand what is f interest to all Members, which it is their right to understand. his rule makes no provision whatsoever for it. Apparently it is ot the intention of the Government of India Act to provide or such possible contingencies, but leaves it to the Speaker n charge of the affairs. There is one word 'used.' The word used' is capable of a liberal interpretation. It may mean either peaking or listening; but if it is intended to mean speaking only s the rules made in the Assembly are interpreted, the difficulty is nsolved. You must find a way out of this. Where a person is

not acquainted with English and where the proceedings are going on in English, he must be permitted to hear another language. That is what the Chair is trying to do. This view, I submit, may be considered reasonable. The other alternative is that there is no provision. Therefore the House and the Speaker are free to provide for it. What we have done is sufficient to meet practical purposes. Where there is anything important, the Member may try to put his speech in that language in which he is proficient. One Member puts it in Tamil and another puts it in Malayalam. I do not think it is the intention of the Government of India Act to impose a restriction for the furtherence of the English language to the detriment of other languages. The proceedings are for *understanding and not for furthering any particular language.*"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, section 85 of the Government of India Act is very clear. I do not think that there is any possibility of any loophole being found in it."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It may be recalled that you were particular to know the views of the other side. Mr. Hameed Khan has already spoken once."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Hameed Khan is the Leader of the Muslim League party and he may be heard again."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Section 85 of the Act is very clear and there is nothing in my humble opinion to make any deviation from the provision made in that section. It is clearly stated that the language of the House should be English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not there like that. It is stated there that the proceedings should be conducted in the English language."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I expect all the proceedings should be conducted in the English language. Ordinarily every Member who knows English and who has been in the habit of speaking in English is expected to speak only in the English language and not any other. That aspect is clear."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is clear to you."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When I say it is clear, it is clear to myself; it may not be clear to the Speaker. The other aspect of it is this. Those Members of the House will carry on the proceedings of this House in the English language. Apart from them there is another class of Members who may understand the English language and yet cannot express themselves in it. For that class of people it is provided that they could speak in their own language. Nowhere is it provided that a Member who can speak in the English language and who has

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spoken in the English language can be allowed to speak in any other language or give a translation of his English speech in Tamil."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it necessary to provide for it in the statute? Are you debarred otherwise?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am afraid we are debarred."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What about the Members who do not know your speech? Suppose you are the solitary man and all the rest are elected from constituencies . . ."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is a hypothetical question."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I believe Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan would modify his opposition, if I make one point clear. Supposing I make an appeal on a particular matter and try to secure the consent of the House and another member who does not know English makes a strong point against me. Suppose members who do not know English have listened to me and are prepared to vote against me; have I not got a right to appeal to those members, to secure their consent and speak in 4-15
the language which they understand? I think Mr. Hameed Khan's p.m
position will therefore result in refusing to me the consent of the members who do not know the English language as a consequence of section 85 of the Government of India Act, which cannot be its object."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, apart from the various points raised for your consideration, I would request you to consider one point. Though the Hon. the Prime Minister claims the right to speak and appeal to members in all languages so that his appeal or the appeal of any other member may be heard and decided upon, so far as the vote is concerned, it is an important matter concerning all members. My submission is: will not the gentleman desiring to speak in English because he knows that language—and who does not come under the second category of persons—be permitted to speak first in English? Of course if necessary, he can speak in other languages and that is a matter which will be acted upon according to the ruling you are going to give to-day. I raise this point because it will help many members as we are constituted to-day—I think I am right in saying that a large majority of the members know English already; and the question of the language in which they should speak is a very important point you have to consider along with the various other points which you have to consider before you give your ruling.

"I would like to place before you another point in this connexion and that is with regard to the chances given to members

intelligently to follow the proceedings of the House. Since question-time takes a good portion of the discussion in the House every day, if answers are printed and placed on the table of the House half an hour before the commencement of the sitting each day, then members who do not know English, though the answers are printed in English will seek the help of other members who know English to translate them for their benefit. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Why not print in other languages also? "

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I leave it to you, Sir, for consideration. Of course, I need not raise all points for consideration because there are other hon. Members who can also throw suggestions."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You are very particular and anxious about English-knowing members. Why not you be equally anxious about other members who do not know English? "

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I am only suggesting this because it will mitigate the difficulty of persons who do not know English that if the answers are printed in English and are placed on the table half an hour before the commencement of the sitting, it will enable hon. Members of this House who do not know English to know the meaning of the questions so that they can prepare their supplementary questions in their own mother-tongue and keep them ready at question-time. If you think, Sir, that it will be helpful and if the Government agree to it, of course they can be priuted in all the languages; that is a different matter and . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the answers should be printed, they should be printed in English, Tamil and Telugu at least."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" That is a matter entirely for the Government to decide and no one will be more pleased than myself if that could be done. I want only to point out for your consideration whether it will not be really helping members who do not know English if at least the answers are printed in English so that they can seek the help of their colleagues to understand their meaning."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I am sorry, Sir, I have again to rise. Indirectly the question of printing the questions and answers has been brought in. I should like that to be taken up, if we are really taking up that question, separately and not mix it up with this."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, the Hon. the Premier has raised one new point and that is this: suppose a member who knows English wants to put before the House a certain point on which he wants the consent or support of other members who do not know English; in this case, he wants to know whether he can appeal to them in the language

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which they know. That is a question which really requires consideration. Of course if the statute is elastic enough, the Speaker may permit him to speak in English or in any other language and not the gentleman who knows English. The Speaker may permit a member to speak in any other local language after speaking in English, if he wishes to speak in any other language but for that he must appeal to the Speaker to allow him to do so."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Sir, I am not going to add much to what has already been stated, but I only want to make a small suggestion. Yesterday you said that there is a minority which does not know English. I think I am correct in saying that this minority is about 50 or so. Am I correct, Sir?"

Mr. SPEAKER:—"You may not be quite correct."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"It may be somewhere in the neighbourhood."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"It may be very much more. Not knowing English is one thing; not understanding the English language is another thing; and speaking in English is yet another thing; therefore there are various stages in this."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"There are some members who do not have even a smattering of English. That is why I say their number is about that. It is a very important matter. That is why I want to make the suggestion that we must first of all know how many there are in the various categories; and if they are in a minority, you have got to weigh the views of both the majority and the minority and if the majority know English and have a working knowledge of that language, we get on . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"And the minority will have to sit dumb all through?"

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Then it will be necessary for the House or for the Speaker to make some arrangement whereby these people . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"It is only with regard to that arrangement we have been trying all these 21 months."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Then the proceedings of the House may be translated and given to them."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Who is going to translate except the member himself who speaks?"

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"The office."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Nobody except the members of the House can address the House."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—"I am suggesting this, Sir, simply because the proceedings of the House should not be held up like this and the forum of the House should not be disturbed."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—" If anybody speaks in Tamil or Telugu, how do you think the proceedings of the House are disturbed? "

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" It is not so, Sir. My point is, a member may stand up and say something in Malayalam and the Minister may not understand it."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" If the Minister does not understand it, he may seek the help of his Parliamentary Secretary who understands it, just as the Member who does not know or understand English seeks the help of some other Member."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" I can only speak on behalf of the majority."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I think Mr. Krishna Rao may leave the Ministers to take care of themselves and he need not be anxious about the difficulties of Ministers. I think the Ministers are in favour of it."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" I am only talking about the business of the House in which the Ministers and the members may co-operate."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" That is why I say the hon. Member need not be anxious about the difficulty of Ministers."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" I do understand, Sir, what you say; but at the time I do feel that the Ministers feel the discomfiture very much. That is why I am telling this in the interests of carrying on the proceedings of the House."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Does the hon. Member suggest that Members who do not understand English should sit dumb and quietly without understanding what is happening in the House? Is that the intention of the Legislature? Can it then be a democratic House? "

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" It is rather the inevitable consequence of the elections. You have to get over it somehow."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" How will you get over it? "

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" It has got to be thought over carefully and decided."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" We are talking about it now for two years and we have talked about it off and on and now finally let us see what each Member has got to suggest."

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" My suggestion is, that you may take this question into consideration calmly—of course the Hon. the Prime Minister also may think over the matter and find out a *via media* with regard to this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER:—" A practical and working arrangement was made yesterday and it was with regard to that that some members who want to speak in English and English alone, wanted to raise a point of order."

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* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" In the interests of the proceedings of the House I am placing this suggestion."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What is the suggestion? Is it that members who know English must speak in English alone? "

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" There must be of course some sacrifice on the part of those who speak in English and so we have got to take time and see how things take shape. I only plead for a little more time and consideration so that the Hon. the Prime Minister may think over the matter and give a solution."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, apart from the provision in the Government of India Act, I do realize the position in the House very well. I also believe that you are anxious to find some solution out of the difficulty in order that hon. Members who cannot follow the discussion in the English language, may also be given an opportunity of understanding the proceedings of the House. For that, may I submit that you will kindly not give a ruling now? I would request you to call a meeting of the Rules Committee so that the matter may be thrashed out and we can arrive at some decision in regard to the difficulty. But, when you once give your ruling, Sir . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" You are indefinitely postponing it."

SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" ఆ విషయములో ఇంగ్లీషు తెలియని వాళ్లనుగురించి కొంచెము చెప్పెదను."

MR. SPEAKER:—" మీరు ఇంగ్లీషు తెలియనివాళ్లలో ఒక కాత్రన మీరు కూర్చోండి."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" A time-limit can be imposed; if you like we can have it to-morrow."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" One more opportunity for a word, Sir. The difficulties have been thrashed out, though suggestions have not been very plentiful. The solution that we have arrived at practically amounts to this: We have been following the principle even now that as far as possible we shall use other languages than English also for the benefit of those who do not follow the proceedings and who are eager to follow the proceedings and whose assistance is necessary if we want to make the decisions of this House useful and effective. We have been managing it without any difficulty, because the average comes out all right finally. One thing I wish to add and that is why I got up now in response to what Mr. G. Krishna 4-30 p.m.
Rao has been saying. Just as in business those who take up responsible positions have necessarily to be acquainted with more than one language in the conditions and circumstances of our country, so also in politics those who will take up responsibility

and have to take up responsibility, cannot afford to be ignorant of other languages than one's own regional or mother tongue. That is the natural and final solution of all these difficulties; and I think there need be no apprehension on the part of members that the hon. Members here who are in charge of the Government or the administration are so ignorant of the various languages as not to be able to understand what is being said in whatever language it may be With this assurance I hope the House will help the Speaker to carry on as we have been hitherto doing."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think all the Members that are able to speak in English have spoken. Members who may not be able to speak in English may speak on this point."

AN HON. MEMBER :—" They must know on what they should speak."

MR. SPEAKER :—" They know at least the subject on which we are speaking."

Sri C. R. Parthasarathi Ayangar rose.

MR. SPEAKER :—" You know English. Members who do not know English have been called upon to speak. I want to give them an opportunity."

Srimathi G. Ammanna Raja rose.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS :—" She knows English."

SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA :—" Members who do not know English do not know that you are asking them to speak." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" Members that know English are helping them."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I think you represent that interest most powerfully and completely, Sir " (Renewed laughter.)

Sri Kallur Subba Rao began to speak in Telugu.

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU :—" He knows English, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" No."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO :—" అధ్యక్షా, ఈ విషయమై ఇంత చర్చ జరుగవలసిన అవసరములేదు. ఈ సభలోని సభ్యులందరికిని సభలో ఏమి జరుగుచున్నదో తెలుసుకొనవలసిన అధికారమున్నది. వీరందరును దేశములో అనేక మంది ప్రజల తరపున ప్రాతినిధ్యమును వహించివచ్చినారు. వారికందరికిని ఇచ్చట జరుగుచున్న వ్యవహారమంతయు తెలుసుకొనవలసిన బాధ్యత కలదు. కావున అధ్యక్షులు ఈ విషయమై తగిన సలహా నిచ్చి తగిన ఏర్పాటు చేయగోరెదను."

SRI A. RAMALINGAM:—"இந்த சபையில் இங்கிலீஷில் பேசினால் ஒன்றும் விளங்கவில்லை. தமிழில் சொன்னால் விளங்கும். நமது நாடு தமிழ் நாடு. தமிழில் சொன்னால்தான் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்."

SRI P. PEDDA PADALU :—"నాకు ఇంగ్లీషు రాదండి. Mr. Speaker, తెలుగులో చెప్పండి."

MR. SPEAKER :—"తెలుగులో చెప్పండి."

SRI P. PEDDA PADALU :—"అధ్యక్షా, నాకు ఇంగ్లీషు రాదు. కావున ఇక్కడ జరిగే సంగతులు తెలుగులో చెప్పించాలి."

SRI V. V. NARASIMHAM :—"ఈ సభలో చాలామందికి ఇంగ్లీషురాదు హిందీ, కన్నడము, మలయాళము, తెలుగు భాషలలో ఇచ్చట కార్యక్రమము జరిగిననే కాని మాకేమియు తెలియదు. దేశములోగల అనేకమంది దరిద్రనారాయణుల తరఫున మేమిచటికి వచ్చినాము. అచ్చట సభ్యులు ఇంగ్లీషుతో మాట్లాడినచో మాకు తెలియదు. కాబట్టి దయచేసి ఇక్కడ జరుగుచున్న కార్యక్రమాన్ని తెలుగులోనికి, కన్నడములోనికి, హిందూస్థానీలోనికి, అరవములోనికి చెప్పించినచో అందరికిని ఇచ్చటి సంగతులు తెలియునని మనవిచేయుచున్నాను."

*SRI T. S. CHOKKALINGAM PILLAI:—"தெலுங்கில் பேசினால் எங்களுக்கு ஒன்றும் புரியவில்லை. ஹிந்துஸ்தானியில் பேசினாலும் ஒன்றும் புரியவில்லை. கன்னடம் மலையாளத்தில் பேசினாலும் ஒன்றும் புரியாது. ஆகையினால் நான் ஒரு யோசனை சொல்லுகிறேன். தினசரி ஒரு மணி நேரம் மெம்பர்களுக்கு ஹிந்தி கிளாஸ் வைத்துவிட்டால் ஹிந்தி தெரிந்துவிடும். அப்பொழுது நம்முடைய சட்டசபை நடவடிக்கைகள் பூராவையும் ஹிந்தியில் நடத்திக்கொண்டு போகலாம்."

MR. SPEAKER :—"I think the Member must be more serious. He is expected to be more serious in his suggestions.

"Now, hon. Members will observe perfect silence and listen to the Chair.

"This is a very important matter affecting the very existence of this Legislature. Members of this Legislature have been elected under the Government of India Act of 1935. This Act sought to introduce provincial autonomy and members have been treating this as an autonomous Legislature. Large electorates have been created under this Act and millions of people who do not know English are the masters of the soil and they have returned these people. It is to be expected that the rural constituencies would return people who, most of them, do not know English. They have sent actual agriculturists here who do not know to read even A, B, C in the English language. They have got as much right to speak in the Legislature, to understand the proceedings of this Legislature as the most enlightened member of this House. (Hear, hear.) It is not merely the members of this Legislature that are very particular about the proceedings of the Legislature. Vast millions outside the Legislature are interested in the

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manner in which their representatives conduct themselves on the floor of this House, represent their interests and discharge the duty they owe to the electors. They are coming here in vast numbers, hundreds and thousands, as visitors also. And, this House not being sufficient for all the visitors, we have provided outside a loud-speaker for the benefit of visitors who are interested in the proceedings of this House. People have been coming in hundreds to Madras to listen to the proceedings of this House—people who have returned you, Gentlemen, people who do not know English at all. They know only Tamil or Telugu or Malayalam or Kannada. And, these are the circumstances under which we are carrying on legislation here. The Government, let me says, is not an irresponsible Government. It is wholly responsible to the Legislature. And, as such it is responsible to all the millions that sent the members of the Legislature here. The electorate consisting of vast millions of non-English knowing people is the sovereign master. Their opinion counts and they are the people that must know the proceedings of this House. They are interested absolutely in the proceedings of this House.

" The one important point is that although the Government of India Act created large electorates and hon. Members are returned by those large electorates that know English very little, still the Legislature itself having come into existence under the Government of India Act, we have to conduct the proceedings of this Legislature in pursuance of the provisions of that Act itself. And, wherever the Government of India Act is not specific, liberal interpretation has to be put; and from the beginning the Chair has been very anxious to put a very liberal interpretation upon a very large number of matters that have not been covered, or only insufficiently covered, by the Government of India Act.

" Hon. Members may be aware that the British Parliament knows all the parliamentary rules of procedure, and the British Parliament is claimed to be the most democratic House. When section 85 was passed by the British Parliament, the British Parliament never contemplated that all the members of this Legislature would know English. That is why specific provision is made to enable people not knowing English to speak in the other languages But there is a lacuna with regard to the people that do not know English and still want to understand the proceedings of this House. There is a lacuna, an evident lacuna, which the Members of the British Parliament thought people of commonsense assembled in this House would be able to supply. It is left to the Chair to guide the deliberations, to interpret the provisions of the statute in such a manner that the Legislative Assembly is a regular legislative assembly carrying out its functions fully and to the satisfaction of the electorate that has returned it.

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"In the first place there is an obsession amongst many English-knowing people that section 85 is mandatory. I have already told this House that section 85 is not mandatory. It is simply directory. Section 85 does not in clear terms say that members knowing English should speak in the English language alone. It never says that. Section 85 provides specifically that the rules of this Legislature shall enable non-English knowing members to use another language. This provision is specifically put lest English knowing Members, who are anxious to-day in this democratic Legislature to speak in English, should conspire and not provide at all for non-English knowing Members to speak. The members of the British Parliament were anxious that these English-knowing Indians might out-do themselves as people are insisting to-day to speak in English alone, though their mother-tongue in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam or Kannada and though they can speak in Tamil or Telugu much more eloquently and much better than they do in English. So the members of the British Parliament have allowed a margin for the weakness of the English-knowing people and hoped that they will not be insisting upon the proceedings completely being only in English, to the disadvantage of other members. The previous rules were different. So they have put the enabling clause. The mere fact that there is a provision enabling the people to use another language does not disable people knowing English from using another language. For instance every matter in this House has to be decided by the vote of the majority. If the Leader of the Opposition should be right in his view that people who know English should speak in English under the technical interpretation, strict interpretation, as he calls of section 85, in that case he will not be able to make himself understood to non-English knowing Members. He will not be able to canvass even a single vote of non-English knowing Members of this House. Similarly, the Government on this side, on the right side, have got the right to make themselves understood by non-English knowing Members of this House. Each vote weighs and every Member of this Legislature has to give his vote after understanding the proceedings of the Legislature and after giving his judgment, his consideration to the matter on hand. So, in the first place, constituted as this House is in a democratic fashion on the basis of a very large electorate, I think the intention of the British 4-45 p.m. Parliament has never been that Members who know English to some extent should speak in English alone and not use their mother-tongue in which they are really much more proficient than in the English language.

"The very use of the passive in section 85 that the proceedings *shall be conducted* in the English language is taking away what seems to some Members to be the mandatory character of the provision. If it was the intention of the British Parliament

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that Members knowing English should speak in English, it would have said, 'All Members knowing English *should speak* in English.' They can be expected to know their language well. In some of the other Acts, the thing has been put in the active sense, viz., that the language shall be English, French and so on. Here, the very fact that the passive is used, takes away the mandatory nature of the provision. There is the further fact that no penalty has been attached to this. These show that it is not mandatory. Wherever the word 'shall' is used in the English language, let it be understood by hon. Gentlemen that it has been interpreted by eminent jurists that it does not necessarily mean always mandatory. Even in regard to statutes which impose obligations, 'shall' has been interpreted by jurists and eminent judges to be permissive. If I take hon. Members through the numerous decisions where 'shall' has been inserted instead of 'may,' they will be convinced; but it will be a long process and it is quite unnecessary for our purpose. We are an assembly of people of high commonsense. We are practical people and not merely academicians discussing here things which have only an academic value. We are practical people legislating and carrying on the Government of the land; as such we are full of commonsense. We must carry out the provisions of the Government of India Act in a most liberal manner and in a democratic fashion. I therefore hope that the hon. Members will agree with me in holding, as I have held a number of times previously, that the language of section 85 is not mandatory and that it is simply directory, enabling those people not knowing the English language to use any other language.

"Questions can be asked—and that is the difficulty that has arisen to-day as it did on one or two occasions previously—in the vernaculars. A Member asked supplementary questions in Telugu. He has considerable experience of the working of the Andhra Paper Mills about which a question was answered on the floor of the House this day. He was a director of the Andhra Paper Mills and as such knew more about that matter than others. He does not know a word of English. He put a very intelligent and important supplementary question touching the Andhra Paper Mills. Evidently the other Members who do not know Telugu could not follow his question. Luckily, the Parliamentary Secretary who gave the answer on behalf of the Government knew Telugu and answered in Telugu. Hence arose this difficulty. Hon. Members should remember that those gentlemen who do not know a word of English have been exercising a good deal of patience all these 21 months. Ministers were replying in English; Members of the Opposition were asking questions only in English; these non-English knowing Members bore it all patiently for 21 months. And when a Member who knows only Telugu, but is the only person who knows the details of the working of the

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Andhra Paper Mills, put a dozen supplementary questions in Telugu, the patience of the English-knowing Members was exhausted and Member after Member got up and remarked that the work of this House cannot be carried on. Hon. Members will now at least realize the difficulties of the Members who do not know English and how to their disadvantage the proceedings of the House are being carried on day after day by people who know English. Let hon. Members knowing English therefore cultivate a greater spirit of patience and a sense of respect to Members who do not know English. I would even go so far as to say that they would be doing a great service to the country if, every Member who knows English, after speaking in English gives the substance of his speech in the language which he knows; let it be Tamil, or let it be Telugu, or let it be Hindustani. Of course, hon. Members who do not know English may say that it is the duty of the Members who speak in English to do that. But I would not go so far. Although the non-English knowing Members have got a right to sit in this House and demand of their brother Members, who know English and who take a lot of the time of the House speaking in English, to speak for two or three minutes in Tamil or in Telugu or in Hindustani after their long-winded speeches in English are over, they do not make that demand. Hon. Members who know English must congratulate themselves upon the enormous patience exhibited by the Members who do not know English. If these three dozen people are determined to speak in Tamil or Telugu alone, put questions only in one of those languages and give notice of Bills and resolutions also only in Tamil or in Telugu, I cannot imagine how difficult the position of the English-knowing Members will be. Members knowing English must cultivate a spirit of parliamentary brotherhood on the floor of the House. They must be very considerate and indulgent as regards to the rights of others. Just as they have got the right to speak in English, they must recognize equally the rights of the non-English knowing Members to speak and understand the proceedings of this House.

"It is an elementary and constitutional right of every Member of this Legislature to know and follow the proceedings of this Legislature. I therefore say that the Members who do not know English are entitled to use the floor of the House as freely, and without being fettered in the least, as hon. Members who know English. If such Members take up the time of the House in putting questions in Tamil or Telugu, for the benefit of the Members who do not know these languages we shall think of some working arrangement to enable them to understand the thing. It is a very difficult matter. It is not easy of solution. The only solution possible is to divide the Madras Presidency into various linguistic provinces. (Applause.) This Legislature has unanimously passed a resolution that this Presidency should be divided into linguistic provinces, and it is really very surprising

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that the will of the Legislature which represents the will of the people of the Madras Presidency has not been respected by the Secretary of State up till now. (Loud cheers.) Not only this Assembly, but the Legislative Council also has passed a similar resolution a year ago calling upon the Secretary of State for the immediate carving out of this Province into linguistic provinces. But we are surprised when questions were put and the information was elicited from the Government that the Secretary of State did not consider it in the interests of the country that provinces should be carved out further and that linguistic provinces should be constituted. Probably from that distance the Secretary of State feels certain difficulties; we do not question it. But our difficulties are numerous, innumerable and insurmountable. The difficulties of this Legislature are not known to the Secretary of State. Unless he comes and sits here for two days and watches the difficulties under which the proceedings are conducted here, he cannot realize them. We have been somehow or other managing these 21 months with great restraint. It has always been a *matter of great surprise to me that a Legislature of this type* which has got five other recognized languages besides English should be able to carry on its proceedings in such a quick manner and in so short a space of time. Even the 365 days of the year will not be enough if all people begin to speak in their languages and every speech has to be interpreted. Hon. Members have very rightly suggested that the speeches should be interpreted. But it is very difficult to carry out that suggestion. This is not a deliberative House. This is a legislative body. Persons who are not Members of the Legislature cannot be allowed to interpret the proceedings. The Government cannot appoint interpreters for translating the speeches from one language into another. They can get this work done only by appointing more Parliamentary Secretaries. It is only Members of the Legislature that could be appointed by the Government for this purpose. But even this it may not be possible to do; and if it were possible, I would have even consulted the Government and made arrangements with regard to translation. If an English speech is to be translated entirely into Tamil by a Parliamentary Secretary of this House, by another Parliamentary Secretary into Telugu and by another in Malayalam or in Kanada or in Urdu, where is the end to it? It is therefore very difficult to carry on the work of this Assembly and the House must be congratulated upon the very great efficiency with which the proceedings are recorded. The Hon. the Prime Minister has sent me just now a note to say that the proceedings of this House have beaten all record in speed and in the despatch of business in spite of all difficulties. The credit for this is entirely due to the hon. Members of this House." (Cheers.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Due to the Speaker, Sir." (Renewed cheers.)

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Certainly not due to me."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Most certainly and largely due to the Speaker, Sir."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:— " Firstly and primarily it is due to you, Sir, and only secondly to us."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is only due to you, Mr. Speaker." (Cheers.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let me assure hon. Members of this House that my honest and sincere conviction is that every Member of this House is so quick, so smart and so ready that he does not take the time of the House. Although so many speeches are made in English, in Telugu and in Tamil, even the people who do not know the language in which the speeches are delivered are able to understand the spirit of the speeches. (Laughter.) I have seen from the bright faces of the European Members when Tamil and Telugu speeches are delivered, that they are able to understand the spirit of the speeches. (Renewed laughter.) So also the spirit of Mr. Langley's speech was understood by many people who did not know the English language. But if you want 5 p.m.
to understand the substance also, then arises the difficulty; because, the humour is above language, the spirit is above language, for words convey a meaning the spirit of which is understood and felt only by the person hearing. When it comes to a matter of intricacies and detail of questions dealt with in the course of the speech, there comes the difficulty. Then we have cultivated through our own difficulties an instinctive sense of understanding to some extent what is being spoken.

" I would therefore suggest the working arrangement which I suggested yesterday—a very imperfect solution no doubt—but that is the only solution possible under the circumstances. It is not possible that we can give a perfect solution; but till a better solution suggests itself we would adopt the working arrangement I suggested yesterday. Hon. Members who do not know Tamil or Telugu will continue to show the same amount of forbearance and patience they have been showing till now while others are exercising their right to the limited extent to which they do. But whenever they wish to understand any important matter that is going on, the Chair will certainly do its best to make the proceedings understood. If English-knowing members who do not know the language in which a speech is made want to understand the Tamil, or Telugu or Hindustani speech, as the case may be, every effort will be made to give them the substance of the proceedings.

" I would therefore summarize and say, that it is the fundamental right of every member of this House to know and understand the proceedings of this House irrespective of the provisions

of the Government of India Act. (Applause.) Every effort will be made by the Government as well as by the Opposition to give effect to this elementary right of every member of this House. And so, I finally close. Probably this is rather a long statement which I have made, though in the form of a speech—an extempore speech."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The longest ruling ever made." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have spoken at such great length to-day because I do not want a repetition of all these scenes hereafter at any time and waste even a single moment of this House. The difficulties are numerous, and probably insurmountable so long as we have got this multi-lingual Legislature; and we shall get on and carry on our business with great efficiency—if not with greater efficiency—after this classification. I would ask hon. Members who speak in the English language, to give the substance of their speech, at the end of their speech, in the languages which are known to them, let it be Tamil, Telugu or Hindustani, for the benefit of non-English knowing members. I hope without further attention being drawn to it hon. Members will carry out this direction scrupulously. No doubt some difficulties may arise later on and a working solution may be found as and when they arise.

" Discussion on Demand XV will now continue."

* MRS. A. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Mr. Speaker, before you proceed to the discussion of the next Demand, may I crave your indulgence to put you a question for the benefit of non-English knowing members of the House and in view of the suggestion you now made with regard to the practical working of the language scheme in this House, namely, whether you propose to translate this long winded ruling of yours into the provincial languages? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Deputy Speaker is requested to translate it in Telugu." (Laughter.)

* MRS. A. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Can you not do it, Sir? I can't do."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Deputy Speaker will come to the Chair and give the substance of the ruling in Telugu."

* MRS. A. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I can't do it, Sir. I can't translate your ruling."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The substance of it can be given. I know only Tamil to the extent that I can follow a lecture; I can't deliver a speech in Tamil. I will give the substance in Telugu, and the Hon. Premier will deliver the substance in Tamil." (Laughter.)

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* **THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:**—அக்கிராசனாதி
பதி அவர்கள் அனுமதியும் கோரிக்கையுஞ் சேர்ந்து எனக்கு இப்பொழுது
ஒரு வேலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. தமிழ் மாத்திரம் அறிந்தவர்களுடைய காரிய
மானபடியினால் ஸ்ரீமான் அக்கிராசனர் அவர்கள் சொன்னதென்னவென்
பதைச் சுருக்கமாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன். இதுவரையில் இந்தப் பாஷைகள்
விஷயத்தில் கொஞ்சம் சிக்கல் ஏற்பட்டிருந்தது. பேசுவதைப் பற்றி மாத்
திரம் சட்டத்தில் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறது. அதே பேச்சைக் கேட்டு அறிந்துகொள்ள
வேண்டியவர்களைப்பற்றி சட்டத்தில் கவனிக்கவில்லை. இங்கிலீஷில் பேசுகிறவர்
கள் இங்கிலீஷில் பேசிக்கொண்டு போனால், இங்கிலீஷ் தெரியாதவர்களுக்கு
இங்கிலீஷில் பேசினதை அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிந்த பாஷையில் அர்த்தம் புரி
யும்படி சுருக்கமாகச் சொல்லாமல் போனால், காரியம் என்னவென்று விவர
மாகத் தெரியாது. அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுடைய கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்தி செய்ய
சட்டத்தில் எல்லாவற்றையும் பார்த்து குறுக்கே ஒரு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்
கிறது. அதாவது முக்கியமான பிரசங்கங்கள் முடிந்தவுடன் அப்போதைக் 5-15
கப்போது சுருக்கமாக இங்கிலிஷிலோ அல்லது தமிழிலோ அல்லது தெலு p.m.
ங்கிலோ அவரவர்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட சௌகரியப்படி அவைகளை மொழி
பெயர்த்துவிட்டால் பொதுவாக எல்லோருக்கும் சௌகரியம் ஏற்படும். நம்
முடைய நடவடிக்கைகளும் சீக்கிரமாக நடைபெறுமென்று தீர்மானித்
திருக்கிறார்கள். இதை இங்கிலிஷ் தெரியாதவர்கள், தமிழ் தெரிந்தவர்
கள் ஒப்புக்கொண்டு, காரியத்தில் கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்
கொள்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—" నేనిప్పుడు ఇంగ్లీషులో చెప్పినదానిని తెలుగులో సంక్షిప్త
ముగా చెప్పెదను. ఈ శాసనసభకు వచ్చిన తెలుగు ప్రతినిధులలో ఇంగ్లీషు రానట్టి
వారికి ఇక్కడజరిగేటట్టి చర్చ అంతా తెలియకపోట్లాగ అనే విషయమును, ఇక్కడ
ఇంగ్లీషువచ్చినశాసనసభ్యులు ఇంగ్లీషులోనే మాట్లాడవలెనా, ఇతరభాషలలోకూడా మాట్లా
డవచ్చునా అనే విషయమును, దేశములోని ప్రజలు పంపించిన ప్రతినిధులు ఈ శాసన
సభలోని చర్చలో పాల్గొనుటకు వారికి కేవలము ఇంగ్లీషురానంతమాత్రముచేతనే
ఇక్కడకువచ్చి ఊరికే కూర్చొనవలెనా, ఇక్కడ ఇంగ్లీషులోగాని ఇతర భాషలలో
గాని జరిగే చర్చవారికి తెలియవలెనా అక్కరలేదా అనే విషయమునుగూర్చి చర్చ జరిగి
నది. ఉభయ పార్టీలవారును, ఇంకను అనేకమంది మాట్లాడినారు. దానికి ఫలితంగా
నేనిచ్చిన తీర్పు ఏమంటే, ఇంగ్లీషురాకుండా కేవలము తెలుగు, మలయాళము,
కన్నడము, ఉరుదు వచ్చిన సభ్యులిచ్చట వున్నట్లయితే వారికి ఇక్కడ జరిగేటట్టి కార్య
క్రమము యావత్తు తెలుసుకొనుటకు హక్కున్నది. ఆహక్కు యేవిధముగా చలామణి
యగుననే విషయము చాలాకష్టమైనది. ఇంగ్లీషు భాషలోనుండి తెలుగులోనికి,
తదితరభాషలలోనికి తర్జుమా చేయాలంటే,

" I think hon. Members will observe silence; because then only other members who do not know English will be able to hear me.

" ఈ తర్జుమా చేయడము విషయములో శాసనసభలో శాసన సభ్యులు కానివారు
ఎవరును మాట్లాడుటకు వీలులేదు. శాసన సభ్యులు కానట్టివారిని ఇచట అనువాదకు
లుగా నియమించినట్లయితే ఈ శాసనసభలో వారుపన్యాసమునిచ్చుటకు వీలులేదు.
అట్లు చేయుటకు వారికి హక్కు లేదు. కేవలము ఈ శాసనసభలో వున్నట్టి సభ్యులు
మాత్రమే వాటిని తర్జుమా చేయవచ్చును. అట్లు చేయుటలోకూడా చాలా కష్టము
లున్నవి. ముందు ఇంగ్లీషులో మాట్లాడినది ఆభాష రానివారికి తెలుగులోను, అరవ 5-15
ములోను, మలయాళములోను, కన్నడములోను, ఉరుదులోను తర్జుమాచేయవలసి p.m.
యుండును. ఆ విధముగానే తెలుగు భాషలో మాట్లాడినది తమిళములోనికి, ఇంగ్లీషు
లోనికి తర్జుమాచేయవలసియుండును. ఇటులనే ప్రతి ప్రశ్న, ప్రతి అను ప్రశ్న, ప్రతి

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జవాబు, ప్రతి బిల్లు, ప్రతి బిల్లుపైని ఉపన్యాసములు, ప్రతి తీర్మానము, ప్రతి సవరణ, ఇవన్నియుకూడా తెలుగులోనికిని, తమిళములోనికిని, ఇంగ్లీషురాని సభ్యులు ఉపన్యసించినయెడల అది ఇతరభాషలలోనికిని శాసనసభలో తర్జుమాలు జరిగినయెడల అది చాల దుర్ఘటమైన పని. అట్లయినచో ఇచ్చట పని జరుగదు. ఇక్కడ పని జరుగవలసి యున్నది. మనమిచట ఒక రాజ్యాధికారమును జరిపించవలసియున్నది. ఈ శాసనసభ మద్రాసు రాజధానిమీద రాజ్యాధికారము చేయుచు, చట్టమును నిర్మించుచు, బడ్జెటు ప్యాసుచేయుచు, ప్రభుత్వమును జరిపేటప్పుడు ఆ ప్రభుత్వము చురుకుగా ఎంత పట్టుదలతో పనులను నెరవేర్చినట్లయినచో ప్రజలకుకూడా అంతంత సులభముగా సౌకర్యములు జరిగి, తరువాత ఈ శాసన సభ్యులు బయటకు వెళ్లి తమతమ నియోజక వర్గములో పనిచేయుటకు అవకాశములుండును. కాబట్టి చురుకుగా పని జరిగేటట్టి సందర్భములో మన కార్యక్రమమునుగూర్చి ఈ తీర్పును చెప్పినాను :—

"ఇంగ్లీషులో మాట్లాడేటట్టి ప్రతి సభ్యుడుకూడా ఇంగ్లీషు ఉపన్యాసానంతరము తనకు తమిళము వస్తే ఆ భాషలోను, తెలుగు వస్తే దానిలోను, హిందూస్తానీ వస్తే ఆ భాషలోను, ఉపన్యాసముయొక్క పొడుగును బట్టి 4, 5 నిమిషములలో తర్జుమా చేయవలసినదని నేను కోరినాను. శాసనసభలో అందరుగూడా ఇంగ్లీషులో తమయొక్క పాండిత్యమును వెల్లడించవలెనను అభిప్రాయము కలవారు ఇంగ్లీషులోనే ఉపన్యసించినయెడల వారు తప్పకుండా దేశీయభాషలో తర్జుమాచేస్తారని హెచ్చరిక చేస్తూ, ఈ శాసనసభయొక్క కార్యక్రమము జరుగుట ముఖ్యముకాబట్టిన్ని, అనేక భాషలు కలిగిన శాసనసభ కాబట్టిన్ని, ఈ మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రము భాషాప్రయుక్త రాష్ట్రములుగా విభజింపబడేవరకు ఇచ్చటి కార్యక్రమమంతయు జరిపించవలసిన బాధ్యత మనపైనున్నది కాబట్టి ఈ శాసనసభా కార్యక్రమము అయప్రదంగా జరిపించాలంటే ఇంగ్లీషు భాషలో మాట్లాడినవారు తెలుగులోనో తమిళములోనో మాట్లాడవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను. ఇంగ్లీషుభాషరానివారు మాట్లాడినచో వారి యుపన్యాసమును ఇంగ్లీషులోనికి తర్జుమా చేయించవలసినదని కోరినయెడల అట్టి ప్రయత్నముకూడా జరిపించుటకు ఆలోచించవచ్చుననియు ఇచ్చట కార్యక్రమము చురుకుగా జరిపించవలెనని నేను అందరిని కోరినాను.

"దాదాపు రెండు సంవత్సరములనుండి మనము ఇక్కడ చాలాకష్టములు పొందుతూ గవర్నమెంటు ఆఫ్ ఇండియా చట్టము క్రింద ఎంత కష్టముతో పనిచేయుచున్నప్పటికి, శాసనసభ, కౌన్సిలు రెండున్ను యేకగ్రీవముగా భాషాప్రయుక్త రాష్ట్ర విభజన చేయవలసినదని మనము సెక్రెటరీ ఆఫ్ స్టేటుకు శకమండు చేసినప్పటికి అతను మనయొక్క కష్టములను తెలుసుకొనలేక దానికి జవాబుగా ప్రస్తుతము దేశములో భాషాప్రయుక్త రాష్ట్ర విభజనమవసరములేదని తీర్మానించినాడు. సెక్రెటరీ ఆఫ్ స్టేటు వెంటనే ఈ శాసనసభయొక్క యేకాభిప్రాయమును గ్రహించవలసిన బాధ్యత యున్నది. మద్రాసు శాసనసభయొక్క ఏకాభిప్రాయమనగా మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రములో వుండేటట్టి ప్రజల యావన్మందియొక్క యభిప్రాయమును, ఈ నాలుగు కోట్లమంది ప్రజలిచ్చిన ఏకాభిప్రాయము నుపేక్షించుటకే విధమైన అధికారము సెక్రెటరీ ఆఫ్ స్టేటుకు లేదని, వెంటనే భాషాప్రయుక్తరాష్ట్రవిభజన చేయవలసిన బాధ్యత అతనికి గలదనియు చెప్పుచు ఇచ్చటి కార్యక్రమమును జరుపవలసిన బాధ్యత మనపైయున్నది కాబట్టి దానిని జరిపించుటకై ఇంగ్లీషులో మాట్లాడే ప్రతి సభ్యుడు ఇతర భాషలు వచ్చినట్లయితే వానిలోనికి తర్జుమా చేయవలసినదని చెప్పుచు ప్రస్తుతము కార్యక్రమము జరుపుటకు ఏర్పాటుచేసినాను".

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND XV—EDUCATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Discussion on Demand XV will now continue. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan may speak now."

Srimathi G. Ammanna Raja rose.

MR. SPEAKER:—" You will be the last speaker."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If the lady Member wants to speak I have no objection; I shall speak afterwards."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No. It appears she has got some engagement and wants to go away. But I would say that all our engagements should be postponed. Every member must be very serious in carrying on the proceedings of this House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" This Demand—Education—is a very important Demand . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I hope Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan will be brief because we want to finish a large amount of business."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Fifteen minutes."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No, only ten minutes. I know he can finish his speech in ten minutes and take another five minutes for translating his speech in Urdu."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I was just saying that education is a very important subject in which all people of this Province are interested; and particularly, I believe, it is a matter of life and death to minorities more than it is to any other community. I would try, in my own humble way, to make one position clear. Hon. Members are genuinely anxious that they should try and introduce nationalism in all spheres of life and have been harping upon, in season and out of season, the question of common schools for all communities. Sir, I agree with them to a very large extent that that should be the ideal of every Indian; but then there is no use of being mere idealists. We have to face facts squarely as they obtain in our country; and particularly in our Province, separate schools have been found necessary for various reasons for Muslims. But, Sir, there is the question, as has been referred to by hon. Members who preceded me, of language and there is the question of culture which have come in the way of having common schools to a very large extent in this Province. I do remember—when I say this—that there are some parts of this Presidency where we have common language for Muslims as well as non-Muslims. That apart, in at least half of this Province, there is the question of culture—a matter which influences the education of Muslims throughout the Province. I am confining my attention only to this Province. More than all

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these things, to a Muslim no education is complete unless he is given religious education. It forms an integral and vital part of his education. Governments in the past have recognized this and made provision for religious instruction being imparted to Muslims and they insisted upon this instruction being imparted to their children in the schools. The Muslim Education Enquiry Committee which was appointed by the last Ministry went into this question thoroughly and came to the conclusion that all these aspects have to be provided for if Muslim education should be made complete and satisfactory. Well, for this purpose separate schools for Muslims are necessary. If we take Tamil Nadu into consideration. I do know that there are a large number of my co-religionists whose mother-tongue is Tamil and yet, even they do want separate schools for them so that they can have religious instruction given to them and have their culture imparted to them in Urdu language which is considered absolutely necessary. And for that section of Muslims who know only Tamil and Malayalam it was thought desirable that such a provision should be made. Provision for all these things cannot be made in a common school for Muslims and other classes of people, and therefore it becomes absolutely necessary that Muslim education should be imparted to Muslim boys and girls in separate schools. The members of the Muslim Education Enquiry Committee did come to the conclusion that, if it was not possible to provide separate schools throughout the Province for Muslims, in common schools in some parts of the Province where Muslims attend, provision should be made for religious instruction being given to them, and also for Urdu being taught to them, at the same time safeguarding one other aspect of the question, viz., that there should be a sufficient number of Muslim teachers appointed in those schools. After carefully considering this question, I have come to the conclusion that that is an impracticable suggestion. If a satisfactory arrangement should be made for providing all these aspects of Muslim education, there is no other alternative but the establishment of separate schools for Muslims.

"Then there are two other points to which I would like to refer and which make it absolutely necessary that there should be separate schools for Muslims. One of them, Mr. Speaker, is that but for the existence of these separate schools—I can aver without any fear of contradiction—the little advance that Muslim education has made to-day would not have been possible. Muslims would not have been educated to the extent to which they have been educated, if they had not had separate schools for them, both elementary as well as secondary. Would it have been possible for the existence of a number of graduates that it had been possible for us to secure if a Muhammadan college were not in existence during the last so many years? Would it have been possible for us to have Muslims educated in Islamic

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literature and culture as we have been able to do as a result of the existence of a Government Muhammadan College in the City, if we had not such a college? I may name two or three brilliant students of that college, viz., Moulana Abdul Huq, Syed Abdul Wahab and Dr. Muhammad Hussain Nainar Bokhari and two or three others who to-day represent Islamic culture in the most modern manner possible. They are an asset to Muslim society and I can assure the House that but for the Muhammadan College—I have named only two or three, but there are many others—it would not have been possible for us to have these graduates. Due to the fact that provision has been made in the college for Islamic literature and Islamic culture, and due to the fact that the atmosphere is Islamic, we have been able to produce such a large and distinguished number of graduates. If we have to depend upon the Presidency College, it would never have been possible to produce these graduates, and admission could not have been obtained for Muslims in such large numbers. Therefore, the result would have been that we could not have had such a large number of graduates. The Hon. Premier said that the number of graduates among Muslims has increased. That increase would not have been the result, if we had not that college. If the number of Muslim graduates should increase, and if we should have many more Muslims in the higher services of our Province, there should be more Muhammadan colleges. Otherwise it is impossible for us. I could give another instance. 5-30 p.m.

"Recently in Malappuram, although a certain number of Muslim Mappilla students were attending common schools, as there had been an insistent demand for a separate Mappilla high school, the last Government acceded to that demand and opened a high school in Malappuram for Mappilla students. In that school to-day, there are a large number of Mappilla students receiving education. That phenomenon would never have been possible if the Malappuram school had not been opened. The desideratum in that institution to-day is a residential hostel. Insistent demand has been made by the Mappilla community for opening an extensive hostel in that school to accommodate a large number of Mappilla students who come from distant parts of Malabar to that school. There would not have been a need for such a hostel if we had such high schools located in different parts of Malabar. But inasmuch as there is only one Mappilla school for the whole of Malabar, the need for an extensive hostel to accommodate the students has become great.

The progress of Muslim education is being retarded on account of the utterances of Hon. Ministers like the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan. My Hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan swears by common schools. It is not to-day that he is doing it. He has been all the time swearing by common schools. I have great respect for his convictions. He

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sincerely believes that nationalism would be advanced and communalism would be destroyed by having common schools. But he does not realize the practical difficulties that arise by making such utterances in season and out of season wherever he goes on tour. The effect of such speeches is that local bodies in whose charge Muslim education is entrusted believe that Muslim education would be advanced, if they close Muslim schools and compel Muslim boys to go to common schools. One municipality after another and one district board after another reduces the number of Muslim schools, for they believe that for the sake of nationalism they must send the Muslim boys to the common schools. It is an impossibility, for side by side with the failure of nationalism the failure of Muslim education also will take place. Therefore, I beseech my Hon. Friends on the Treasury Bench not to make such utterances. I also appeal to the Hon. the Minister for Education, if he has any power over the local bodies, to send them definite orders that they should not close down Muslim schools either for boys or for girls. It is not by closing down such schools, however uneconomic they might be, that they would be advancing what they believe to be nationalism.

" And then I would like to refer to another difficulty. Muslim schools are ordinarily necessarily located in Muslim localities. If such schools are closed and Muslim boys are asked to go to a common school which is necessarily located in a non-Muslim area, you can realize, Sir, better than all I can say, what a lot of hardship the Muslim students will have to experience. Apart from hardship, the real fact is that they will never be able to go to such schools. Either that school which is located in a non-Muslim area should be transferred to a Muslim locality or the Muslim boys will have to go to the Hindu school. None of these things is practicable. Neither the Muslim boys can go to schools in Hindu areas, nor can the Hindu schools be brought to the Muslim localities. There are the questions of distance, locality, language, culture; and more than these there is the question of religious education and progress of Muslim education. For all these things, I believe it is necessary that at least for elementary and secondary education the Government of the day who seem to be interested in the advance of Muslim education should continue the policy of separate schools. Not only should they continue that policy, but they should also increase the number of separate schools, for it is only by that means that they can advance Muslim education.

" I have two instances before me, Sir. My Hon. Friend the Minister for Education knows all the trouble which has been created in Tellicherry. There the municipal council resolved to close down a certain number of Muslim girls' and boys' schools. The Mappillas of Tellicherry were greatly agitated over this and they were very anxious that their progress in education should not be impeded by this step. They appealed to the Hon. Minister

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and I am glad to say that he intervened and took the necessary steps. But, Sir, how long can he go on interfering with the decisions of municipalities and district boards? It has become the practical policy of all these local bodies to close down uneconomic schools, Muslim schools particularly; and thereby Muslim education is retarded.

"Reference has been made to what has been called the Wardha Scheme. I do not want to go into the details, but so far as I have tried to understand it, there is a good deal in it which commends itself to every one who is interested in education. But how far the scheme will be a practical one, we have to wait and see. Muslims, particularly their Ulemas, have made it clear for the whole of India, that they cannot accept the Wardha Scheme because there are many disadvantages in it. One of the main disadvantages is that there is no provision for religious education. I trust, Sir, that so far as our Province is concerned, the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. the Education Minister will take the Muslim community into their confidence and consult it with regard to the nature of the education which will be helpful to the community. We are always prepared to place our views on the subject at the disposal of the Government.

"With regard to the question of Hindustani, I will be as *brief* as possible."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Why not say that in Hindustani itself? Why should you speak everything in English?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will not go into the merits of the question. We are anxious that we should have a *lingua franca* for this country. I would certainly stand against any new language in the name of Hindi or Hindustani being introduced if it will retard the achievement of that object. That is one aspect of the question. But so far as the introduction of Hindi or Hindustani in the first three forms of the high school is concerned, I am afraid, Sir, that it is going to be an educational waste. Either the thing should be taught to the boys in the earlier stages or it must be taught in the latter part of the high school and college courses. Studying this language as a secondary language for three years in these classes—the subject is not compulsory for examination purposes, though there is compulsion for study—the student will not attach any importance to it. After all how much is he going to learn during these three years? Then after these three years, he will not have an opportunity of learning the language. The result will be that he will forget what he has learnt during the three years. His mind will be blank. I know of a number of cases where gentlemen who could speak Hindustani before cannot speak the language now as they have not been in touch with it. Therefore, I believe that what the Government are now doing will be an educational waste. All the money which the Government are spending for this purpose will be a waste.

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" Sir, there is another difficulty experienced by Muslim students, particularly in Andhra districts, where Telugu has been introduced as the medium of instruction in the higher forms suddenly. The Muslim students have to keep pace with the other students who have been receiving their education through the medium of Telugu from the elementary stage. It will be easy for such pupils to study their subjects in Telugu and answer their papers in Telugu. But in the case of students who have been receiving their education all these years through the medium of Urdu, if they are suddenly asked to study through the medium of Telugu, you can realize the difficulty to which they will be put. They will not be able to pass their examinations in the first or the second year. The fee concessions will be taken away from them if they do not pass their examinations in the first year. The result will be that most of the poor students will have to give up their education. In this matter, Sir, my Hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan, gave us some hope, but now he is not the Minister. I am sure the Hon. Mr. Varkey will realize the difficulties experienced by Muslim students in Andhra Desa in this respect and try to remove them.

" With regard to the question of education generally I spoke on the subject last year and I am afraid I will have to repeat the same remarks this year also. The advance that has been made in all the stages of education is very slow. The Government have not spent much more money on elementary education and secondary education than has been spent in the past. The reason is they have not the money. If they have more money they will spend it on education."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has taken twenty minutes."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I will finish in two or three minutes."

MR. SPEAKER:—" And then, the hon. Member will have to take another five minutes to give the substance of his speech in Hindustani. So, the hon. Member must close in one minute."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Yes, Sir. I say that reform in general education should be introduced on a wholesale scale. The Government should not mince matters. Patching up here and there will certainly not solve the problem. There is need for a thorough-going reform in education. I insist on the Government taking up one thing which is more important than anything else and that is making each stage of education complete in itself. The elementary stage and the secondary stage up to the fourteenth year of the boy or girl should be made compulsory and should be complete in themselves. The secondary stage should not be merely a stage leading to the college stage. It must be made compulsory and complete in itself, so that anyone

who passes through the secondary course of education can be called an educated person. To-day the school-final examination is a damnation. It should be abolished and a better system of examination should be introduced, after passing which a boy or girl could be considered to be an educated person. Therefore, I believe it is necessary that reform should be introduced.

" Sir, the District Educational Councils are going to be abolished."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I think the English speech must close. The hon. Member must begin giving the substance in Hindustani."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I will close soon, Sir. I believe, Sir, that when once these Educational Councils are abolished, the Government should appoint Advisory Committees for each district to look after the education of our children. I also believe, Sir, that all education—not in the case of Mussalmans alone—should be departmentalized; it must be taken away from the hands of local bodies—not only in the case of Mussalmans, but for all people. And the Government must have what are called Advisory Committees." 5-45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER:—" If you can speak in Urdu or in Tamil and give the substance, that would be better."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am sorry, Sir. I shall *stop with English*."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Mr. Speaker, people both inside and outside this House are perhaps thinking that I am not taking much interest in the business of the House; and so, Sir, I think I may do justice to my presence in this House by *speaking at least once in a year at the time of the annual Budget*."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" You are entitled to speak on each occasion."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Yes, but I am not participating oftener in the debate."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" That is your own fault."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—" That is what I am saying; it is my own fault. But I have been trying to take inspiration from the speeches of the Muslim members of this House who fight such a lot for their community and get the benefit out of it. If I were to follow them, I am sure we would have got many things done for our women."

AN HON. MEMBER:—" Don't have a separate woman community."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—" After all this fuss is made, I am not even inclined to speak; but anyway, I want to say a few words, especially with regard to elementary education. The Hon. Mr. Varkey said this afternoon that he does not intend

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making any provision for compulsory education in the Province I do not know why he does not see the necessity for making education compulsory. Education is, in my opinion, more important than anything else. He can cut down the expenses on other things, if he wants. Why not spend more money on elementary education? Yesterday, he said that several lakhs of rupees have been granted to the universities and the colleges. Why not cut down that expenditure and spend a little more on elementary education? Without education, I do not think anything is possible at all. I request therefore that the Hon. Minister should consider this matter once again and try his best to introduce compulsory education in all the districts as soon as possible. I mean of course not only for girls, but for boys also. I know the boys will get it anyway.

"The next point I want to refer to is about the Wardha Scheme Something has been said about it; we know about it only vaguely just because it has not been introduced so far anywhere, so far as my knowledge goes. I request the Hon. Minister to send some more people for this kind of training and then to introduce education on those lines in one centre at least in each district, so that we may know what it is, and the scheme may begin to work early enough.

"Another point about which much has been said, is the introduction of Hindi. We have been trying to make it compulsory and there has been such a lot of opposition to it. I want to know both from members inside the House and from people outside who have been opposing this scheme, if they have ever thought as to why our provincial languages are going out of use, and why we are using English more than our own mother-tongue."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But you are not yourself using your mother-tongue?"

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"I will tell you why; that is what I am coming to. We have learnt so much of English in every course, in elementary education, in the high schools and in the colleges, that we are not able to make a good speech in Telugu at all, or in our own languages. That is the experience, I believe, of many people . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You do not address your constituency in English, I think."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"We have been trying to address them in Telugu. We cannot do that even with fluency or with confidence. Not that we are able to do so better in English at all; we are not masters of that language even. So, I say, we are not doing justice to our own languages. Instead of protesting against the introduction of Hindi, I wish all the members join together and protest against the English language being used; why not we replace it altogether by Hindi?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The best protest, if you are really serious, is not to use that language yourself, but to use your own mother-tongue."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"I wish we could, but we cannot and our educational system is at fault. I hope we may be able to speak in our languages hereafter at least. Sir, I know many of the parents who have been opposing the introduction of Hindi are sending their children to convent schools, just because they teach good English there. They have never realized or stopped to think that by sending their children to convent schools, they are encouraging their children to forget their own mother-tongue because they don't teach the mother-tongue at all in convent schools. That is my experience. As far as I know, girls who go to convent schools are not able to read or write a correct sentence in their own mother-tongue. Have the parents at any time thought of this fact, when they protest against the introduction of Hindi? If they were really serious and sincere in their attempt to oppose Hindi, they should have thought of this fact first. It has become a matter of course for people to talk to each other in English, to write letters in English, even to their own parents, sons, daughters, brothers and sisters."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not in the Telugu country."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"Even in the Telugu country it is so."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Statements which are not true should not be made in the House."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"But I know there are many members here who address each other in English even when they talk . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Only to accommodate them."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"You can ask the members, if you want. I would be only too glad to learn from the members that they have been always writing to their children or their parents and brothers and sisters in their own mother-tongue and not in English; but I don't think it is so. There have been many speeches made on the floor of this House in Telugu and Tamil; I do not know how many of those speeches were perfect, except perhaps in the case of a few persons like Mr. Kalluri Subba Rao. I do not think there have been any good speeches made after all in our languages." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Telugu speeches are far better than the English speeches."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—"I don't think it is so, Sir. Those who have been opposing the introduction of Hindi in schools must be convinced to-day more than ever that we should

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have even thought of this idea much earlier, so that the time of the House may not have been wasted as it is being wasted now. We could have all along spoken in Hindi. For the first time I think yesterday there was a speech in Hindi, and I was glad to see there was no opposition to it.

"Then, Sir, I want to say just a word to my Mussalman friends, who have been stressing so much on separate schools. Even after hearing Mr. Hameed Khan's speech, I am afraid I am not convinced about the necessity for these separate schools. I do not like there should be separate schools either for Mussalmans or for Hindus or for anybody else. I would give out, for instance, my own experience. The other day we had a ladies' meeting at Ellore. We took special care to go to Muslim houses and invite the Muslim ladies to the meeting, so that we might mingle with each other and know each other. But we were not even allowed to get into their houses. We went to several Government officers' quarters and to some of the merchants' houses. Some of them told us, 'We are asking you to go, why don't you go?' I was so much frightened that they would even neck us out. In the end, we were able to get only two ladies to go with us, they were some officials' wives who are used to go to clubs and so on. So, I say, instead of asking for separate schools, if we have common schools, I think greater benefit could be derived. After all, if the Muslim ladies won't even mingle with each other—because these Mussalmans observe the *gosha* system—out of their homes, I am afraid they can only have a limited knowledge of things. I do not say that this will only lead to narrow-mindedness or any such thing, because my Muslim friends will object—I am very much afraid of them. (Laughter.) After all, even the children that are brought up in their homes are not allowed to go out of their homes; and when they have to be sent to school, if they go to separate schools, as children, they will have only a limited sphere where they can move about as pupils, and so also later, as citizens. At least, if they are allowed to get their education in common schools, they would mix with others and meet people outside their community. These Muslim members come here and ask and fight for so many things. How I wish they will try to do what they can in order to reform their own community, their homes and customs! Why not they give better privileges to their women? What is the trouble? Why are they not coming out? I can quite understand their not going out and mixing up with men or even their keeping out of sight of men; but what is the trobule in their going to common girls' schools for study? What harm can women do to them? Mr. Hameed Khan says now that they cannot get religious education if they go to common schools. I suggested they can have a separate period allotted for their religious education, and I am sure the Hon. Minister won't grudge giving them that facility. So, what I should like the Muslim

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members to do is that they should reform their own homes first, instead of coming here and fighting for this right and that right, for separate schools and for some percentage to be given to them in all appointments, etc. First of all, they must give a broader vision to their sisters and their children. I do not know why these members do not think of all this at any time. I do not know why even now they think of keeping their women in *gosha*. I do not see any point in it at all. I am sorry for them. They do not know anything about what is going on outside their homes. I happen to be living in a Muslim locality just now; there the terrace wall of the house is as high as myself, and I was wondering why it was so. I forgot at the moment that I was in a Muslim locality. I was wondering what the idea was in having such a high wall. If I want to call a flower-woman or a fruit-seller or somebody going in the street below, I have to raise my feet and bawl out. I do not see any point at all in having this *gosha* system. I therefore request the Muslim members here to try to abolish this system and also ask for the abolition of separate schools for Muslims. They have a perfect Muslim girls' school in Royapettah on which the Governmeut spend a lot of money. I was surprised yesterday when I heard a member saying that they wanted another school in George Town. One difficulty about the Muslim women is that by remaining indoors, they are not able to imbibe culture to a degree they ought. I indeed pity the condition of the women and would like them to rebel against this system.

"I may be permitted, speaking as I do on behalf of women, to appeal to the Government to make better provision for educated women. After all they are only very few in number and even amongst them there is unemployment and many begin to feel that their education has been a waste. They spend a lot of money on education with the idea of getting some appointment as teachers. They have only to look forward to a restricted field of employment as other departments are barred to them. Even in the Education department they have not been able to get appointments and they have to go to distant places, like the Punjab, Lucknow, Delhi and Benares to seek employment. It is a sad state of affairs that our women especially when there are avenues for employment for them should have to go to distant places in search of employment and regret that they had not thought of such a contingency at the time when they took to ednoation. So steps should be taken 6 p.m. by the Government to relieve unemployment among educated women. Such of the few Muslims that have been educated have been provided with appointments and I think it would not be extravagant to ask for such a privilege for women, especially when there are only a few to be provided with employment. It will not cost the Government anything very substantial and it will give an impetus for female education, especially university educa-

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tion. As things stand at present, they are beginning to feel that university education is becoming a waste because they are not able to make any use of it. I hope that the Hon. Minister, if he really wants to help the women of this Province towards higher education, will do something to relieve unemployment among the educated women. I would commend the very sound suggestion made by Mr. Subba Rao yesterday that women should be employed in all elementary schools and should have a sound education so that their children may have the best sort of education both at home and in the schools. I hope that suggestion will be put into force as early as possible.

" Must I speak in Telugu also, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It was your pleasure to speak in English and if it is equally your pleasure to speak in Telugu for the benefit of the non-English-knowing members, you can do so."

* SRIMATHI G. AMMANNA RAJA:—" ప్రాథమిక నిర్బంధ విద్య సాధ్యమైనంత వరకు అన్ని జిల్లాలలోను ప్రవేశపెట్టవలెను. విద్యలేనిచో దేనికిని ప్రయోజనము లేదు. అందుచేతనే మనమింత వెనుకబడియున్నాము. ఈ విషయమే మంత్రిగారితో మనవి చేసినాను. ఇచ్చటకు వచ్చిన ముస్లిము మెంబరు చాలా విషయములను గూర్చి అడిగినారు. వాళ్ల స్త్రీల విద్యావిషయమై ప్రభుత్వమువారేమియు శ్రద్ధతీసుకొనుటలేదనియు, ప్రత్యేకంగా స్త్రీలకు స్కూళ్లుండవలెననియు అడిగినారు. అట్లున్నట్లయితే విద్యావిషయములో అభివృద్ధికలుగదనియు, భారత జాతిఐక్యతకు నష్టము కలుగుననియు స్త్రీలకు ప్రత్యేకముగా స్కూళ్లుండకుండా అందరును ఒకే స్కూలులో చదువుకొనుటకు సావకాశము కల్పించుటకై ముస్లిములందరును ప్రయత్నించవలెనని కోరినాను.

" తరువాత హిందీ సాధ్యమైనంతవరకు అన్ని స్కూళ్లలోను ప్రవేశపెట్టినట్లయితే ఇప్పుడున్నట్లుగా ఇన్ని భాషలుండకుండా భారతజాతికంతకు ఒకే భాష యుండుటకు వీలుండుననియు చెప్పినాను."

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் பலவிதமான நன்மை செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். என்றாலும், ஏழைகளுடைய படிப்பு அபிவிருத்தி விஷயத்தை சிறிது தான் கவனித்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள்; பூரணமாக கவனிக்கவில்லை. பூரணமாக கவனிக்காததினால் என்ன குறைகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன என்றால் தற்பொழுது கல்வி இலாகா படிப்புக்காக ஏற்பட்ட இலாகாவாக இல்லை. ஆனால் அது எந்த வகையில் சிக்கனஞ் செய்யலாமென்ற நோக்கத்துடனிருக்கிறது; இப்பொழுது சிக்கனத்திற்காக ஏற்பட்ட இலாகா என்றே சொல்லலாம். படிப்பை அபிவிருத்தி பண்ணக் கூடிய இலாகாவாக இல்லை. இருபது ஆண்டுகளுக்குமுன் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் பிள்ளைகள் அதிகமாயிருந்தால், படிப்பு நன்றாகச் சொல்லிக் கொடுத்தால், அவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் கிராண்டு அதிகமாகக் கொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். அதனால் பிள்ளைகளை அழைத்துக் கொண்டுவந்து பிள்ளைகளுக்கு படிப்பு நன்றாக கற்றுக்கொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். அந்த காலத்திலிருந்த சர்க்கார் கிராண்டைக் குறைக்கவில்லை. பிறகு சிக்கனத்தை உத்தேசித்து ஒவ்வொரு கிரேடிலும் பாஸ் பண்ணினவர்களுக்குத் தகுந்தாற்போல் கிராண்டு விநியோகம் பண்ணினார்கள். லோயர் கிரேட் டிரெயினிங் ஆகாதவர்களுக்கு நாலு ரூபாய் கிராண்டு

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என்றும், லோயர் கிரேட் டிரெயினிங் ஆகியிருந்தால் ஆறு ரூபாய் கிராண்டு என்றும், ஹையர் கிரேட் டிரெயினிங் ஆகியிருந்தால் எட்டு ரூபாய் கிராண்டு என்றும், செக்கண்டரி கிரேட் டிரெயினிங் ஆகியிருந்தால் பத்து ரூபாய் கிராண்டு என்றும் வகுத்து, ஒவ்வொரு உபாத்தியாயருக்கும் கிராண்டு கொடுத்தார்கள். அது போதாது என்று கேட்டதன்பேரில் நூற்றுக்கு நூறு உயர்த்திக் கொடுக்கலாமென்று விதி ஏற்படுத்தியிருந்தார்கள். இருபது ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வைத்து நடத்திய அனுபவம் எனக்கு இருக்கிறது. அந்தக் காலத்தில், நூற்றுக்கு நூறு உயர்த்திக் கிராண்டு கொடுத்த காலத்தில், ஏராளமாக கிராண்டு வந்தது; பள்ளிக்கூட நிர்வாகத்தை நடத்திக் கொண்டுவர சாதகமாயிருந்தது. இன்னும் அதிக செலவைக் கருதி பிறகு நூற்றிற்கு ஐம்பது விகிதத்திற்கு மேல் கொடுக்கக் கூடாதென்று சிக்கனம் பண்ணினார்கள். அதனால் கஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டது. பிறகு நூற்றுக்கு இருபது குறைக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். இப்படி நாளா வட்டத்தில் குறைத்துக்கொண்டு வந்த முறையில் கிராண்டுத் தொகையானது ரொம்பவும் குறைந்து விட்டது. ஆகையினால் ஒரு பள்ளிக்கூடம் நன்றாகப் படிப்புச் சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடமாயிருந்தாலும் கிராண்டு தொகை குறைந்து விட்டதினால் உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு சம்பளம் கொடுக்க முடியாமலும் மற்றும் நிர்வாகத்தை நடத்த முடியாமலும், இரண்டு வருஷம் வைத்து நடத்திப் பார்த்துவிட்டு மூடவேண்டியதாகிவிட்டது. கிராமங்களிலுள்ள பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்குக் கிராண்டு குறைந்து விட்டதினால் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை உபாத்தியாயர்கள் சரியாக நடத்துவதில்லை. பள்ளிக்கூடத்தை பேருக்கு வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் பிள்ளைகள் ஒவ்வொருநாளும் பள்ளிக்கூடம் போய் வாசிக்கிறதில்லை. கிராண்டுக்காக மாத்திரம் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் வரும்போது பிள்ளைகளைத் திரட்டிக்கொண்டு வைத்துக்கொண்டு படிப்புச் சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கிறதாகக் காண்பிக்கிறது. இன்ஸ்பெக்ஷன் முடிந்ததும் பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்குப் பிள்ளைகள் போய் சரியாய் நடத்தமாட்டார்கள். உபாத்தியாயர் தன்னுடைய சொந்த வேலையைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருப்பார். சர்க்கார் பணத்தைக் குறைத்ததினால் இது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. வரவரக் கிராண்டைக் குறைத்துக் கொண்டு வந்து விட்டார்கள். இதுவுமல்லாது இந்த ஏற்பாட்டில் விளைந்த அனர்த்தமென்னவென்றால், இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் கிராமங்களுக்குப் போனால், யோக்கியமான அதிகாரிகள் ஒழுங்காய் போய்விட்டு வந்து விடுவார்கள். லஞ்சம் வாங்கும் அதிகாரிகள் என்ன செய்கிறார்கள்? நன்றாய் நடக்காத பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை ஒரு மூட்டை அரிசியோ ஒரு மூட்டை பயறோ, உளுந்தையோ விரும்பி மிகவும் நன்றாக நடக்கிறதென்று எழுதிவிடுகிறார்கள். அதே அதிகாரிகள் நன்றாய் நடக்கிற ஸ்கூல்களை நன்றாய் நடக்கவில்லை என்று எழுதிவிடுகிறதாயிருந்தது. இதனால் சரியாக கிராண்டு கொடுக்க முடியாமற் போய்விட்டதினால் இந்தக் கோளாறைத் தடுக்க கிராண்டைச் சரியாக விநியோகம் செய்ய ஜில்லாக் கல்வி சபைகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டன. இந்தக் கல்வி சபையின் மூலமாய் ஜில்லாக் கலெக்டர் முதற்கொண்டு, கல்வி அதிகாரிகள், முதற்கொண்டு அந்தந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் நன்றாக நடக்கிறதா என்று தெரிந்து கிராண்டு கொடுக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது ஜில்லாக் கல்வி சபைகளை எடுத்து விட்டதினால் முன்னர் எந்தக் குற்றம் நடந்ததோ எந்தக் குற்றத்தைப் பரிகரிக்க இந்தக் கல்வி சபைகளை ஏற்படுத்தினார்களோ, அந்தக் குற்றம் பழையபடி வந்து சேரும் போலிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது ஜனநாயக முறையில் கவர்ன்மெண்டு நடக்கிறது என்றாலும் கீழே இருக்கிற டிப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் என்ன சிபார்சு செய்கிறார்களோ அதைத்தான் மேலே இருக்கிற இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் கல்வி அதிகாரிகள் கவனிக்கிறார்கள். கீழதிகாரிகள் நல்லதைக் கெட்டதென்று சொல்லலாம், கெட்டதை நல்லதென்று சொல்லலாம். இந்த முறையில் நடக்கிற எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலைகள் உதவி பெறக்கூடிய பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் ஜில்லாக் கல்வி சபைகளை எடுத்துவிட்டதால் கெட்டுப்போகும் போலிருக்கின்றன.

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [24th March 1939

“ஜில்லாக் கல்வி சபைகளை எடுத்துவிடுவதால் ஜில்லாக் கல்விசபைகளிருக்கும் இடங்களிலுள்ள ஜில்லாக் கல்விசபைக் கிளார்க்குகளுக்கும் மற்றும் பியூன்களுக்கும் இருந்த உத்தியோகங்களில்லாமல் போய்விடுவதால் அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கை மிகவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கும், அவர்களை மற்ற இடங்களில் உத்தியோகத்திற் கெடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் ஆரம்ப உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் மாதிரிப் பாவிக்கிறார்கள். பத்து வருஷம் பதினைந்து வருஷம் ஸர்விஸ் செய்தவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுக்குக்கூட இந்தக் கல்விசபைகளை எடுத்துவிடுகிறதினால் உத்தியோகத்திற்குப் பங்கம் ஏற்படும்போலிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் செய்த சர்விஸை அனுசரித்து எல்லாவித சம்பளத்தோடும் நல்ல பதவிகள் வேறு இடங்களில் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். பியூன்களைக் கைவிட்டு விடக்கூடாது.

“இப்பொழுது சிக்கனமுறையில் என்ன செய்கிறார்கள் ? இருபது பிள்ளைகளுக்குக் குறைந்திருக்கும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை எடுத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். இந்தச் சிக்கனமுறையில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் எடுபட்டுப் போகின்றன. இந்தச் சிக்கனமுறை கவர்ன்மெண்டுப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் விஷயத்தில் அனுஷ்டிக்கப்படவில்லை. கவர்ன்மெண்டு பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் நன்றாய் நடக்கும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் பதினைந்து பிள்ளைகளிருந்தாலும் அப்படிப்பட்ட பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை எடுக்கிறதில்லை. இந்த முறையில் விரலுக்காக மோதிரமா மோதிரத்திற்காக விரலா, என்று சர்க்கார் கவனித்துப்பார்க்கவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்கும் ஒவ்வொரு பள்ளிக்கூடத்தையும் சாத்துவதற்கு வழி தேடிவிட்டார்கள். ஹரிஜனப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை எடுத்துவிட்டு ஊரிலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்கலாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். சேரியிலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடத்தை எடுத்துவிட்டு கிராமத்திலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளைப் படிக்கச்சொல்லுகிறது நல்ல நோக்கமாயிருந்தாலும், இதில் என்ன நடக்கிறதென்றால், ஊரிலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கு ஹரிஜனப்பிள்ளைகளை இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் வரும்போது அனுப்புவதை ஒத்துக்கொள்கிறார்கள். மறுநாள் அனுப்பினால் வருகிற ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளை ஊரிலுள்ள ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் அடித்துத் துரத்திவிடுகிறார்கள். அல்லாதுபோனால் தாய் தந்தையர்களை ஹிம்ஸை செய்கிறார்கள். இந்த முறையில் ஹரிஜனப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் சேரியிலிருப்பவைகளை எடுத்துவிட்டு ஊரிலிருக்கிற ஜாதி இந்துப் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்கும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளைப் போய் படிக்கச்சொல்லுவது ஹரிஜனங்கள் கல்வியில் அபிவிருத்தி அடைவதைக் கெடுப்பதாயிருக்கிறது. ‘ஊரிலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை எடுத்துவிட்டு ஊர்ப்பிள்ளைகள் சேரியிலிருக்கும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் வந்து படிக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை சேரியில் வைக்கட்டும். சேரியிலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை எடுத்துவிட்டு ஊரிலிருக்கிற பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளைப்போய் படிக்கச்சொல்லுவது நடக்கக்கூடிய காரியமல்ல” என்று நான் சொல்லுகிறேன் இப்பொழுது ஹரிஜனப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை எடுத்துவிடுவதால் ஹரிஜனப் படிப்புக்குக் கெடுதி ஏற்படுகிறது. ஒவ்வொரு சேரியிலும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் இருக்கவேண்டும். ஒரு ஹரிஜனப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் குறைந்தபிள்ளைகளிருந்து படித்தாலும் அந்த இடத்தில் பள்ளிக்கூடம் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று பார்க்கவேண்டுமேயொழிய அந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தை எடுத்துவிட்டு பணத்தை மிச்சப்படுத்தலாமென்று நினைக்கிறது நல்ல காரியமல்ல என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்.

At this stage the Deputy speaker (Mrs. Rukmini lakshmipathi took fhe chair.)

6-15 p.m. “மேலும் நமது காங்கிரஸ் மந்திரி சபை ஏற்பட்டபிறகு இப்பொழுது ஒரு உத்தமமான காரியஞ் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். காலேஜில் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு சம்பளம் வேண்டாமென்று சர்க்கார் உத்திரவு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்காக மனப்பூர்வமான வந்தனஞ் செலுத்துகிறேன். ஹைஸ்கூல்களில் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்கிறவர்களுக்கு சம்பளம் வேண்டுமென்று வைத்தால் எவ்வாறு பொருந்தும் ? ஹரிஜனப்பிள்ளைகள்

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ஹைஸ்கூல்களில் படிக்கப் பணமில்லாது கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகையினால் ஹைஸ்கூல்களிலும் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளை சம்பளமில்லாமல் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி படிப்புக்கு கீழேயிருந்து காலேஜ் படிப்பு முடிய சம்பளமில்லாமல் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளுக்குப் படிப்புக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்க வேண்டும். சம்பளமில்லை என்று வைத்திருந்தால் எளிதில் படிப்பார்கள். இந்தப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு சம்பளம வைத்தால் பூரணமாக பூராவும் ஸ்காலர்ஷிப் (scholarship) கொடுக்கவேண்டும். செக்கண்டரி ஸ்கூலில் ஒரு பையன் fail ஆகிவிட்டால் மறுபடி scholarship இல்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இதனால் மேலே படிக்க முடியாமல படிப்பை நிறுத்தும்படி ஏற்படுகிறது. கனம் முதன் மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு உத்தியோகம் கொடுத்து வருகிறார். இன்னும் படித்தவர்கள் வேண்டுமென்றும் படிப்பு ஏற்பட்டு உத்தியோகத்திற்கு ஹரிஜனங்களில் படித்த ஆட்கள் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லுகிறதினால், காலேஜ் படிப்புக்கு உத்திரவு போட்டமாதிரி ஹைஸ்கூல் படிப்புக்கும் உத்திரவு போடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொளகிறேன். பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் சில இடங்களில் ஒழுங்காக நடைபெறவில்லைதான். அதற்குக் காரணமென்ன ? சரியான மேல்பார்வை இல்லாததுதான் காரணம். ஒரு கல்வி அதிகாரிமாத்திர மிருப்பது போதாது. இந்தக் கல்வி அதிகாரியுடன் (Supervisors) சூப்பர்வைஸர்கள் என்ற அதிகாரிகளும் இருக்கவேண்டும். முன்னே சூப்பர்வைஸர்கள் இருந்தகாலததில் ஒவ்வொரு பள்ளிக் கூடமும் நன்றாக நடக்கிறதா என்று பார்த்தார்கள், அதனால் பள்ளிக் கூடங்கள் ஒழுங்காக நடைபெற்றன. இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற கல்வி அதிகாரிகள் அம்மாதிரி போய் பார்க்கிறதில்லை. ஆகையினால் ஒழுங்காக நடைபெறவில்லை. அந்தந்த தொகுதியிலிருக்கிற எம். எல். ஏக்கள் நங்கள் தஙகள தொகுதியிலிருக்கிற ஸ்கூல்களை கவனிககும்படி ஏற்பாடுசெய்தால் அதன்மூலமாய் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் ஒழுங்காக நடைபெறும்படி செய்யலாம். ஒரு பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் உபாத்தியாயர் ஒருவர் இருந்தாலும் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு நன்றாகக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கிறார் ; அதனால் ஏராளமான பிள்ளைகள் சேருகிறார்கள். பல உபாத்தியாயர்களிருந்தாலும் நன்றாகக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கிறதில்லையானால் பிள்ளைகள் குறைந்துவிடுகிறார்கள். நன்றாகக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்காத உபாத்தியாயர்களிருந்தால் அப்படிப்பட்ட உபாத்தியாயர்களை எடுத்துவிட்டு நன்றாகக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கும் உபாத்தியாயர்களைப் போடவேண்டும். பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் உபாத்தியாயர்களை ஒழுங்காகக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கச் செய்யவேண்டும். இந்த விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் கவனஞ் செலுத்தவேண்டும்.

" இன்னொரு விசேஷமான சம்பவம். போர்டிங் கிராண்டிற்காக இரண்டு வருஷத்திற்குமுன் இரண்டு லட்சம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தது. அதை சென்ற வருஷத்தில் இரண்டு லட்சத்து ஐம்பதினாயிரமாக்கினார்கள். இந்த வருஷம் மூன்று லட்சத்துப் பதினாயிரமாக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது அப்படி ஒதுக்கியிருக்கிறது போற்றத்தக்கதே. இந்த இடத்தில் பரம இரகசியமொன்றிருக்கிறது. கவுன்சிலில் ஒரு கேள்வி ஐந்தாறு வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் கேட்டேன். இந்த போர்டிங் கிராண்டிலிருந்து எத்தனை மிஷனரி போர்டிங்குகள், எத்தனை இந்து போர்டிங்குகள், எத்தனை முஸ்லீம் போர்டிங்குகள், எத்தனை ஆதித்திராவிட போர்டிங்குகள் நடத்துகிறார்களென்று கேள்விகேட்டேன். அதற்கு மொத்தம் 173 போர்டிங்குகள் நடத்துகிறார்கள்; அவைகளில் 157 மிஷனரி விடுதிகள் என்றும், 11 இந்து விடுதிகள் என்றும், 5 முஸ்லீம் விடுதிகள் என்றும் பதில் சொன்னார்கள். ஆகவே ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குப் பூஜ்யயமாகிவிட்டது. மிஷனரிகள் நன்றாக வேலை செய்திருக்கிறார்களென்றாலும் அவர்கள் செய்கிறதில் என்ன பிசகு இருக்கிறது என்றால் என்னுடைய கிராமத்திலிருந்து நானும் இன்னொருவனும் எலிமெண்டரி ஸ்கூல் படிப்புப் படித்துவிட்டு திண்டிவனம் மிஷனரி போர்டிங் ஹைஸ்கூலில்

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [24th March 1939

படித்தோம். எங்களை கிறிஸ்துவர்களாகச் சொன்னார்கள். நான் கிறிஸ்துவனாகச் சேரமாட்டேன் என்று சொன்னேன். அப்படியானால் சாப்பாட்டிற்குப் பணம் கொடு என்று சொன்னார்கள், அதன்பேரில் நான் சாப்பிட்டதற்கு பணம் வசூலித்துவிட்டார்கள். அதனால் நான் பணம் செலவு செய்யவேண்டியதாகிவிட்டது. ஹரிஜனங்கள் கிறிஸ்துவ போர்டிங்கிற்குப் போய் படித்தால் கிறிஸ்துவர்களாகப் போகிறார்கள். மிஷனரி போர்டிங் ஹைஸ்கூல்களில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் போய் படித்துவிட்டு ஹிந்துவாகத் திரும்பி வர மார்க்கமில்லை. போர்டிங் கிராண்டு மிஷனரிகள் சீமையிலிருந்து கொண்டுவந்து போடவில்லை. அப்படியிருந்தும் அவர்கள் போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்களில் ஹிந்துக்களுக்கு சாப்பாடு போடுவதில்லை! ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குச் சாப்பாடு போடுவதில்லை; கிறிஸ்துவர்களுக்குமட்டும் சாப்பாடு போடுகிறார்கள். 157 மிஷனரி போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்கள், 11 இந்து போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்கள், 5 முஸ்லீம் போர்டிங்கு விடுதிகள், இவைகளுக்கு போர்டிங் கிராண்டு எப்படி சர்க்கார் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் என்றால், போர்டிங் செலவில் மூன்றில் இரண்டு பங்கு சர்க்கார் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையினால் மூன்றில் இரண்டுபங்கு சர்க்கார் கொடுக்கும்போது ஒருபங்கு போர்டிங் வைத்து நடத்துகிறவர்கள் போடவேண்டும். ஒரு பையனுக்கு போர்டிங் செலவு நாலு ரூபாயாகிறதென்றால் அதில் மூன்றில் இரண்டுபங்கு சர்க்கார் கொடுப்பார்கள். ஒரு பங்கு போர்டிங் வைத்து நடத்துகிறவர்கள் போடவேண்டும். மிஷனரி ஸ்கூல்களில் மிஷனரிகள் மிஷன்மூலம் ஒருபங்கு போட முடிகிறது. முஸ்லீம் போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்களில் இந்த ஒருபங்கு முஸ்லீம் தனவந்தர்கள் போடுகிறார்கள். ஹிந்து போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்களுக்கு இந்துக்களில் செல்வவான்கள் நன்கொடை அளிக்கிறார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்கள் போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்கள் வைத்து நடத்தவேண்டுமென்றால் முழுவதும் சர்க்காரைத்தான் எதிர்பார்க்கவேண்டும் அவர்களிடத்தில் பணமில்லை ; ஹரிஜனங்கள் மிஷனரி போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்களில் இந்துவென்றால் படிக்க மார்க்கமில்லை. ஹரிஜனங்களைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் ஒரு பையனுக்கு போர்டிங் செலவு நாலு ரூபாய் ஆகுமென்றால் அந்த நாலுரூபாயும் சர்க்காரிலிருந்து கொடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். அப்படிக் கொடுத்தால்தான் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குப் பிரத்தியேகமாக போர்டிங் ஸ்கூல்கள் வைத்துநடத்தமுடியும். ஆகையினால் இந்த வருஷம சர்க்காரில் போர்டிங் கிராண்டு இனத்தில் மூன்று லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறதில் ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஹரிஜனங்கள் போர்டிங் செலவுக்காக செலவழிக்க வேண்டும். ஒரு பையனுக்கு நாலுரூபாய் விகிதம் திட்டம் போட்டுக்கொடுத்தால் ஏராளமான ஹரிஜன பிள்ளைகள் படித்து முன்வரக்கூடும். சர்க்கார் போர்டிங் கிராண்டிற்காக ஏராளமாகப் பணம் ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருக்கிறதில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குத் தக்கவாறு பயன்படுத்துமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" இனியொரு வார்த்தை சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒவ்வொரு மனிதனும் ஹிந்தியைப்படித்துத் தீரவேண்டும். தமிழில் இல்லாத விருத்திப் பிரபாகரம், விசார சாகரம், தத்வானு சந்தானம், ஆத்ம புராணம் போன்ற வேதாந்த சாஸ்திரங்கள் ஹிந்தியில் இருக்கின்றன. தமிழில் இப்படிப்பட்ட சாஸ்திரங்கள் கிடையா, இன்னும் அநேக பெரிய நூல்கள் தமிழில் இல்லாதவை ஹிந்தியில் கிடைக்கின்றன. ஆகையினால் இந்த சாஸ்திரங்களையும் நூல்களையும் படிக்க ஹிந்தி வேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. ஹிந்தியை ஜனங்கள் எந்த விதமாய் எதிர்க்கிறார்கள் ? கட்டாயப் பாடமாக வைக்கக்கூடாதென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். உத்தியோகம் கிடைக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் ஹிந்தி கட்டாயம் பாஸ்பண்ணி இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று வைத்துவிட்டால், கட்டாயம் ஒவ்வொருவரும் படித்துத் தீருவார்கள். எல்லோரும் ஹிந்தியைப் படிக்க எங்கே வந்து சேரலாம் என்று ஓடி வந்து சேருவார்கள். ஆனால் அப்படிச் சொன்னால் பிராமணர்கள் ஹிந்தி படித்திருக்கிறார்கள், அவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்கள் கொடுக்கிறதற்காக இந்த மாதிரி உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்களென்று சர்க்கார்மேல்

குற்றங்கூறலாம் என்று கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் நினைக்கலாம். " ஹிந்தி அவசியமாகவேண்டியதுதான், எங்கள் பிள்ளைகளைப் பொருத்த வரையில் எத்தனை பாஷையானாலும் படிக்கக் காத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். நான் இப்பொழுது எங்கள் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு சம்ஸ்கிருதப் புஸ்தகம் கொடுத்துப் படிக்கச்சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். எங்கள் ஜாதி முன்னேற்றமடைய வேண்டுமானால் எத்தனை பாஷை வேண்டுமானாலும் கற்றால்தான் முன்னேற்றமடைய முடியும். படிப்பில் ஹிந்தியை 'கட்டாயம் " என்று வைத்திருக்கிறதை உத்தியோகத்திற்கும் 'கட்டாயம்' என்று வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று யோசனை கூறுகிறேன். ஆனால் நான் வற்புறுத்தவில்லை. ஹரி ஜனங்களில் ஒவ்வொரு பிள்ளைகளும் ஹிந்தி முதலான பல பாஷைகளைப் படித்தால்தான் முன்னுக்கு வரமுடியும்."

Sri N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI—" கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் இந்தக கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி மானியத்தை ஆதரித்து இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்லுவது என்னுடைய கடமையாக இருக்கிறது. கல்வி எவ்வளவு அவசியமென்பதற்கு இந்த விவாதம் ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கு முன்பு நடந்த சம்பவங்களே போதுமான சாக்ஷியமாகும். ஆங்கிலக கல்வி படித்தவர்கள் தமிழில் பேசுகிறவர்களைப் பார்த்து தெலுங்கில் பேசுகிறவர்களைப், 'பார்த்து ஒன்றும் புரியவில்லை. ஒரே குழப்பமாக இருக்கிற'தென்று புகார் கூறுகிறார்கள். அதே மாதிரி தமிழில் பேசும் என்போன்றவர்களும் தெலுங்கில் பேசக்கூடியவர்களும் என்ன சொல்லுகிறோம், என்றால், எங்களுக்கு இங்கிலிஷில் பேசும்போது ஒரே குழப்பமாயிருக்கிறதென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறோம். அவர்கள் என்ன பேசுகிறார்கள் எதைப்பற்றி சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்பது புரியவில்லை. இந்த மாதிரி நாஙகள் சொல்லுவதற்கு அவர்கள் குறை சொல்லுவதும் அவர்கள சொல்லுவதற்கு நாங்கள் குறை சொல்லுவதுமான நிலைமையில் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதற்கு ஏதாவது ஒரு வழி கண்டுபிடிக்க வேண்டுமென்று இது வரையிலிருந்த சர்க்கார் வழியொன்றையும் கண்டு பிடிக்கவில்லை. சமீபத்தில் ஏற்பட்ட காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் ஹிந்தியைக் கட்டாய பாடமாக வைத்து இது பொது பாஷையாக ஆகிவிட்டால் இந்தத் தகராறு இருக்காது; ஹிந்தியில யார் எப்படிப பேசினாலும் தெரிந்துக்கொள்ள முடியும்; இது பொது பாஷையாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கட்டாய பாடமாகச் செய்தார்கள். ஆனால் எந்தக் காலததிலும் நல்லது செய்யும்போதும் அதற்கு குறுக்கே கோணலாக பேசுகிறவர்கள் பேசிக்கொண்டுதானிருப்பார்கள். எதிர்ப்பில்லாமலிருக்காது. ஒரு உதாரணஞ் சொல்லுகிறேன். 1930-ம் வருஷததில் லாகூரில் நடநத காங்கிரஸுக்கு நான் போயிருந்தேன், இந்த தேசத்தில் என்னுடன் பழகி இருக்கிற இஸ்லாமிய சகோதரர்களுடன் சேர்ந்து, ஹிந்துஸ்தானி பேசுகிறவர்களுடன் சேர்ந்து பழகினதினால் ஹிந்துஸ்தானிபடிக்காமலே பேசப் பழகி இருக்கிறேன். அதனால் அகில இந்திய காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டியில் என்னுடைய கருத்தைச் சொல்லும் 'நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டது. இந்த விஷயத்தை என்னுடைய அனுபவத்தில லாகூருக்குப் போயிருந்தபோது நடந்ததை சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த தேசத்தில் நம்மோடு கலந்துபோயிருக்கிற ஹிந்துஸ்தானி பாஷையை அபிவிருத்திச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று ஒரு சர்ககார் முன் வந்தால் அதை எதிர்த்து சில இஸ்லாமிய சகோதரர்களும் பேசுகிறார்கள். பாஷையில் கூட நாங்களும் அவர்களும் சிநேகிதர்களாக இருக்கக் கூடாதென்று நினைக்கிறார்களா? பெரும்பாலான முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்கள் அப்படி நினைப்பதாக தெரியவில்லை. அரசியல் காரணமாக எதிர் கக்ஷியிலிருக்கிறவர்கள் இப்பொழுது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டை கவிழ்த்து விடலாம் என்று இந்த ஹிந்தி எதிர்ப்பை உபயோகிக்கிறார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன். இதைத் தவிர வேறொன்றுமில்லை. நான் என்னுடைய இஸ்லாமிய சகோதரர்களுடன் பேசும்போது அளவளாவி அன்புடன் பேசுகிறேன்.

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [24th March 1939

“எல்லாரும் இன்புற்றிருக்க நினைப்பதுவே அல்லாமல் வேறொன்றறியேன் பராபரமே” என்று தாயுமானவர் தமிழில் பாடிய பாட்டிற்கிணங்க நாமும் அவர்களும் இன்புற்றிருக்கும் நிலைமையைப் பார்க்கிறோம். ஹிந்தி பாஷையைக் கட்டாயமாக வைக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம். சென்ற வருஷத்தில் நூற்றிருபத்தைந்து பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஹிந்தியை கட்டாயப் பாடமாக வைததார்கள். இந்த வருஷத்தில்கூட நூறு பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் கட்டாயப்பாடமாக வைக்கப்போவதாகத் தெரிகிறது இன்னும் ஆயிரம் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஒரே அடியாக ஹிந்தியை கட்டாயப் பாடமாக செய்துவிடவேண்டும். கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக போனால் இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற நிலைமையில்தானிருக்கும்.

“ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் சம்பளத்தைப் பார்த்தால் அந்தச் சம்பவம் ரொம்பளம் அநியாயமாயிருக்கிறது. ஜில்லா போர்டில் ஒரு சம்பளம், முனிசிபாலிடியில் ஒரு சம்பளம், பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டில் ஒரு சம்பளம், எய்டட் ஸ்கூலில் கிராண்டின் மூலமாக ஒரு சம்பளம். இப்படி இருககிறதில் எய்டட்ஸ்கூல் உபாத்தியாயருக்கு கிராண்டின் மூலமாக பன்னிரண்டு ரூபாய் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இந்தப் பன்னிரண்டு ரூபாயில் சர்க்கார் சம்பளவெட்டு ஏற்படுத்தினதிலிருந்து இருபததைந்து பெர்செண்டு போய்விட்டதென்றால் ஒன்பது ரூபாய் உபாத்தியாயருககுக் கிடைக்கிறது. இதில் மானேஜர்கள் ஸ்டேஷனரி முதலியவற்றிற்காக ரூபாய் இரண்டு பிடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்; கடைசியில் ஏழு ரூபாய்தான் அவர்கள் கைக்குப் போகிறது. இந்த ஏழு ரூபாயை வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி கிரேட் டிரைனிங் பாஸ் பண்ணி விட்டு வந்திருக்கும் உபாத்தியாயர்கள் எப்படி வேலை செய்ய முடியும்? ஜில்லா போர்டிலிருக்கிற ஸ்கூல்களிலும், கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஸ்கூல்களிலும், முனிசிபல் ஸ்கூல்களிலும் இந்த மாதிரி டிரைனிங் பாஸ் பண்ணிவிட்டு வநது வேலைசெய்யும் உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு மாதம் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூபாய் 20, ரூபாய் 23 கொடுக்கிறார்கள். எய்டட் ஸ்கூல்களில் வேலைசெய்யும் அதே உபாத்தியாயர்கள் ஏழு ரூபாய் வாங்குகிறார்கள். இது எவ்வளவு அநியாயம்? இந்தச் சம்பளம் ரொம்பக் குறைவாக இருப்பதனால் இந்தப் பக்கம், அநதப் பக்கம், ஏதாவது உபதொழில் வைத்துககொண்டிருந்தால் என் அந்தமாதிரி உபதொழில் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறீர்களென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதனால் சரியாக வேலை செய்ய முடியாமல் போய்விட்டது. சர்க்கார் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலும், ஜில்லா போர்டு முனிசிப்பாலிட்டிப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலும் சம்பளம் கொடுப்பதுபோல், எய்டட் ஸ்கூல்களிலும் சம்பளம் கொடுக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்தால் கிராமங்களில் மாத்திரமல்லாமல் காடு, மலை, வனாந்திரங்களிலும் கல்வி பரவும். இப்பொழுது கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக எய்டட் ஸ்கூல்கள் குறைந்துகொண்டே வருகின்றன. இவைகளிருந்தாலொழிய, கிராமங்களில் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி ஏற்படாது. கொஞ்சகாலத்திற்குமுன் எய்டட் ஸ்கூல்களுக்கு கிராண்டு எப்படிக் கொடுத்தார்களென்றால், ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பிலும் பிள்ளைகள் எவ்வளவு பரீட்சையில் தேர்ச்சி பெறுகிறார்களோ அந்தத் தேர்ச்சியின் அளவைப்பொறுத்து கிராண்டு கொடுத்தார்கள். அப்படிக் கொடுத்ததினால் உபாத்தியாயர்கள் நன்றாகப் பையன்களுக்கு கல்வி கற்றுக் கொடுத்தார்கள். வேறு வேலை பார்க்கவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லாதிருந்தது. அப்பொழுது அவர்கள் கிராண்டு பணம் ஜாஸ்தியாக வருவதற்காக பையன்கள் படிப்பில் ஜாஸ்தியாக கவனம் செலுத்தினார்கள். இப்பொழுது கிராண்டுப் பணம் குறைவாகக் கொடுக்கிறதினால் வேறு வேலை பார்க்கிறார்கள். ஆரம்பக் கல்வி அபிவிருத்திக்கு வழியில்லாமலிருக்கிறது. ஆகையினால், முன்காலத்திலிருந்த மாதிரி பிள்ளைகள் எவ்வளவுக்கெவ்வளவு தேர்ச்சி பெறுகிறார்களோ அவ்வளவுக்கவ்வளவு கிராண்டு ஜாஸ்தியாக கொடுக்கப்படுமென்று விதி ஏற்படுத்தினால் வேறு உபதொழில்களில் ஈடுபடாமல் பிள்ளைகள் கல்வி

24th March 1939] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

அபிவிருத்தியில் தங்கள் முழு கவனத்தையுஞ் செலுத்தி பிள்ளைகள் ஜாஸ்தி 6-
யாக தேர்ச்சிபெற்று ஜாஸ்தியாக கிராண்டு வருவதற்காக முயற்சி செய் p.
வார்கள். ஆரம்பக் கல்வி அபிவிருத்திக்கு இது பெரிய அனுகூலமாக இருக்கும் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்."

"கடைசியாக ஒரு வார்த்தை சொல்லி முடித்துவிடுகிறேன். ரொம்பப் பேர்கள் பேசவேண்டியவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். வருஷத்திற்கு ஒருதரம் இப்படிப்பட்ட சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் என்ன பேசினாய் என்று ஜனங்கள் கேட்கிறார்கள். நம்முடைய சபையில் என்ன நடக்கிறதென்றால், எதிர்கக்ஷியாருக்கு பேசுவதற்கு சர்வமானியமாய் நேரம் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். கவர்ன்மெண்டு கக்ஷியைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களுக்குப் பேச நேரம் கொடுப்பதில்லை.

" ஜவ்வாதிமலையிலுள்ளவர்களின் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தியில்லாத நிலைமையைப்பற்றி எடுத்துச் சொல்லி அவர்கள் கல்வியில் அபிவிருத்தி அடைய வேண்டிய மார்க்கத்தைத் தேடவேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக் கொண்டேன். இன்னும் சரியான கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி அடையவில்லை. இந்த வருஷத்தில் அதிக அக்கரை செலுத்த வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். இந்த வருஷம் கல்வி மான்யத்திலிருந்து கிராமாந்திர மக்கள் கல்வியில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறவர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். "

* Mr. D. R. ISAAC:—" Madam, I would like to speak a few words about the difficulties of the aided management in elementary education on account of the recent proceedings of the Director. Three years ago, the department prepared a list dividing all these elementary schools into three or four groups while preparing the concentration and consolidation scheme of elementary education. They divided the schools into the following groups: the complete schools, the feeder schools, the isolated schools and the central schools, and then they also classified them as economic and uneconomic schools. When they prepared the list, the managements were not consulted. The list was not given to the Educational Councils for consideration, and on the basis of the recommendations of that list, about six months ago there came out through the Councils to these managements a list of superfluous schools which do not receive any aid and whose recognition should be cancelled. This notice came some time in August or September. By that time, the managements had employed their teachers during this year from April onwards and they have all along been continuing these schools. In the Kistna district alone, there are more than 100 schools of that type and the managements have protested through the Educational Councils for retention of these schools. The list of these schools was prepared three years ago and during this period the condition of the schools has improved. Some of the schools which were considered as efficient three years ago have now become inefficient, and in the same way some of the superflous schools during this period of three years have become efficient. To classify them on the basis of recommendations made three years ago is not right. The managements and the Councils had no opportunity to discuss about it. We have appealed to the Divisional Inspector of Schools and the Director. But so far we have not received any orders. As it is, we are not supposed to

receive any grants nor is the recognition going to stand. I request the Education Minister to consider this problem, since they have got the other provision that such schools as do not have twenty weighted average for each teacher should not receive any aid and assessment would not be given. This provision eliminates wastage and improves efficiency. These superfluous schools may be retained, and the grants may be assessed for this year. This is one request that I would like to make to the Government for consideration.

"Another thing. After the abolition of the Eductaional Councils, we hear that advisory taluk committees are going to be started. During the time that the Councils were working, out of the 30 or 35 members in each district, there were among the aided agencies four to five missionaries appointed representing each mission. I would like to know from the Minister whether such provision has been made in the taluk committees which are now going to be constituted in place of the District Educational Councils. If the number of members in each taluk committee is increased, then there ought to be a representative from each of the mission bodies in that taluk area."

SRIMATHI K. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் கோரும் தொகையை நான் முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிகிறேன். பஞ்சத்தாலும், மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டத்தாலும் இன்னும் சில இனங்களில் வருமானக் குறைவு இருந்தபோதிலும், முந்தின வருஷத்தைவிட இந்த வருஷத்தில் சுமார் மூன்று லட்சம் ரூபாய் வரையில் கல்வி இனங்களில் அதிகமாக செலவழிப்பதற்கு ஒதுக்கி வைப்பதைப் பார்த்து கனம் முதன் மந்திரி அவர்களையும் கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களையும் நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். இதிலிருந்து நமது சர்க்கார் நமது நாட்டு மக்களுக்கு வேண்டிய உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கண்ணுங்கருத்துமாக இருக்கிறார்களென்பது. உள்ளங்கை நெல்லிக்கனிபோல் தெரிகிறது. இது சம்பந்தமாக எனது தாழ்மையான வார்த்தையைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஆரம்பப் பாடசாலைகளில் கல்வி புகட்ட ஹையர் கிரேட் எலிமெண்டரி பரீட்சையில் தேறியவர்களை உபாத்தியாயர்களாக நியமிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இந்தப் பாடசாலைகளை மாகாண கவர்ன்மெண்டாரே நேரில் பராமரிக்க வேண்டும். இவைகளை ஜர்மனி, இத்தாலி முதலிய தேசங்களில் மத்திய கவர்ன்மெண்டாரே பராமரித்து வருகிறார்கள். ஏனெனில் தேசத்தில் பிறந்த எல்லாப் பிரஜைகளும், ஆரம்பக் கல்வியை அடைய பாத்தியமுண்டு. அதுவுமல்லாமல் பொறுப்புவாய்ந்த ஜனநாயக தத்துவ கவர்ன்மெண்டில் ஆரம்பக் கல்விதான் முதன் முதலாக சீர்திருத்தப்பட வேண்டியது; அத்துடன் அதைப் பராமரித்து சாதாரணமாக பிரஜைகளுடைய அறியாமையைப் போக்க வேண்டியது சர்க்காரின்முக்கிய கடமையாகும். நமது காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ண்மெண்டார் ஜனநாயக கவர்ன்மெண்டை நடத்தும் பொறுப்பை ஏற்றவுடன் ஆரம்பக் கல்வியைத் தாங்களே பராமரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று பரிசோதிக்கப்பட்டதாகத் தெரிகிறது. செலவு அதிகம் ஏற்படுமென்ற காரணத்தினால் கைவிடப்பட்டதாகத் தெரிகிறது. ஆரம்பக் கல்வியை பிரஜைகள் பாத்தியத்துடன் அரசாங்கத்தாரிடமிருந்து அடைய அருகதையுடையவர்கள் என்பதைத் தீர்மானித்த பின்பு செலவு அதிகமாகிறதென்ற ஒரே காரணத்தினால் கைவிடப்பட்டதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அப்படிக் கைவிடாமல் ஜனங்களுக்காக கவர்ன்மெண்டார் ஆரம்பக் கல்வி விஷயத்தில் அவசியமான உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். உயர்தரப் பாடசாலை

24th March 1939] [Srimathi K. Lakshmi Ammal]

கள் சர்வகலாசாலைகள் நடத்தப்படுவது சர்க்காருடைய பொறுப்பல்ல. இவைகள் எல்லாம் ஒரு பக்கமிருக்க சர்வகலாசாலைக்கு கூடியவரையில் உதவி செய்தாலும் ஆரம்பக் கல்வியை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் பராமரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று யோசனை கூறுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் விற்பனை வரி விதிக்க உத்தேசித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த வருமானத்திலிருந்து சர்க்கார் இலவச ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை இம்மாகாணத்தில் பராமரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கூறுகிறேன். தவிர, ஆரம்ப ஆசிரியர்களின் கெதியைப்பற்றி நான் சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை. ஒரு பக்கம் வருமை, ஒரு பக்கம் ஜில்லா போர்டு பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு தலைவர்கள் அதிகாரம், ஒரு பக்கம் மற்ற அதிகாரிகள் அதிகாரம், பயமே உருவாகக்கொண்ட உபாத்தியாயர்களைக் கொண்டு வருங்காலப் பிரஜைகளைத் தயாரிப்பது என்பது, கனவு எவ்வளவுண்மையோ அது மாதிரியாக இருக்கிறது. நம்முடைய தேசமும் நம்முடைய தேசத்தின் நாகரிகமும் வருங்காலப் பிரஜைகளால் காப்பாற்றப்படவேண்டுமென்றால் ஆரம்ப ஆசிரியர்களின் தற்கால நிலைமையை உயர்த்தி ஆரம்ப பாடசாலைகளை சர்க்கார் பராமரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் தாழ்மையாய் சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். தவிர வயதானவர்கள் எழுதப்படிக்க கற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கு சில ஏற்பாடுகள் நமது பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் சில காலத்திற்கு முன் சொன்னது தெரிந்திருக்கலாம். கிராமங்களில் தெரியக்கூடிய இடங்களில் தோட்டம், கிணறு இந்தமாதிரி இடங்களில் ஒவ்வொரு பேர்களை எழுதி ஒட்டிவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். அதனால் எப்படி படிக்கமுடியுமென்று கொஞ்சங் கேவலமாக சிலர் பேசினார்கள். நான் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவரையில் அதை வரவேற்றேன். கிராமங்களில் வயதானவர்கள் செலவில்லாதபடி படிப்பதற்கு அது மிகவும் உதவியாக இருக்கும். அதை கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் பரீட்சார்த்தமாக நடத்துவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“ஹிந்தி விஷயத்தில் சிறு குழந்தைகளுக்குப் படிக்க வேண்டிய பாடங்கள் எவ்வளவோ இருக்கும்போது அது எப்படி வருமென்று நம் எதிர்கக்ஷியிலுள்ள மெம்பர்கள் சொல்லி வந்தார்கள். குழந்தைகள் ஹிந்தி படிப்பது கஷ்டமென்று சொன்னார்கள். இந்த விஷயத்தில் என்னுடைய சொந்த அனுபவத்தைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். என் பெண் குழந்தை எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸி. கிளாஸில் வாசித்துக்கொண்டு இரண்டு, மூன்று மாதம் ஹிந்தி படித்து ஹிந்தி பிரசார சபையார் நடத்தும் பரீட்சையில் **First-class**ல் பாஸ் செய்துவிட்டாள். இதிலிருந்து குழந்தைகள் ஹிந்தி படிப்பதற்கு கஷ்டமில்லை என்பதை என் சொந்த அனுபவத்தில் தெரிந்துகொண்டேன். வயது வந்தவர்கள் படிப்பதுதான் கஷ்டமேயொழிய குழந்தைப் பருவத்தில் எவ்வளவு பாடம் கொடுத்தபோதிலும் குழந்தைகள் படிக்கக்கூடும். இன்று இங்கு நடந்த பாஷை வித்தியாச விஷயத்தால் ஒன்றரை மணி நேரம் ஒருவித வேலையும் செய்யமுடியாமற் போய்விட்டது என்பதைத் தெரிந்துகொண்டோம். எல்லோரும் ஒரே பாஷை கற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்பதை இதிலிருந்து நன்றாகத் தெரிந்துகொண்டு இனிமேலாவது ஹிந்திக்கு எதிர்ப்பில்லாமல் இருக்குமென்று நான் நம்புகிறேன். இத்துடன் என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Madam, Deputy Speaker, I had no intention of taking part in this debate as the previous speakers have already exhausted the subject. But I am tempted to speak after hearing the speech of Srimathi Ammanna Raja. We are indeed thankful to her for the kind words of advice and suggestion that she gave for our consideration. While thanking her for her valuable suggestion and wholesome advice, I must say that the *gosha* system as it is prevailing in India is not exactly 6-45 p.m.

[H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur] [24th March 1939

the *gosha* system that is enjoined on the Muslims. She is perhaps carried away by the everyday sight she is seeing in this country of Muslim women being confined within the four walls of their houses. If she had gone to Northern India and travelled there she would have found that Hindu women also are confined in a like manner; there they are observing stricter *gosha* than Muslim women themselves. I have travelled in the Muslim countries of Egypt, Arabia and Syria; there I found Muslim women going about the streets, of course with the Islamic *purdah*. They are allowed to go out, go to the market, go to public places, schools and colleges, not in covered carriages, but open carriages. That is the sort of *purdah* enjoined by Islam. We are thankful to Srimathi Ammanna Raja for her concern for Muslim women. She thinks that this sort of *gosha* is an obstacle for the progress of Muslim women. So far as the remarks of Srimathi Ammanna Raja are concerned, I can only say that she is speaking on observing the conditions prevailing in this country and she is perfectly justified in what she has said.

" I may say one or two words with regard to the necessity for having special schools and colleges for Muslim education in this Province. The other day the Hon. Minister for Education, while presiding over the celebrations in the Pachayappa's College, said that there is need for special institutions for particular communities. We are indeed glad to hear from the Hon. the Minister for Education that he also feels that the existence of separate institutions for separate communities is necessary in certain cases. While we plead for the establishment and continuance of separate educational institutions for Muslims, we do not mean to say that they must be exclusively confined to the Muslim community alone; other communities are welcome. Even to-day Muslim schools are open to all other communities; they can come and receive education in Muslim schools. What we need is religious education and the teaching of Urdu; that is all that we want. If provision could be made in general schools for these two things, we shall eventually give up our claim for special schools. If adequate and proper provision is found for imparting religious education and teaching of Urdu, we do not need special schools.

" There is another important matter I wish to refer to on this occasion and that is with regard to the Muslim orphanage at Madras. The Government, I may say, are giving some special help to this institution which is purely a charitable institution and which exists not only to give education free to Muslim boys and girls but also to give instruction in arts and crafts to these boys. Madam, the great need that is being felt is a plot of ground. The Minister for Education in moving the Demand yesterday, said that he had included grants to educational institutions like the Christian College and Pachayappa's College. We would have been

very glad indeed to have heard from him that similar grants had been made for this Muslim orphanage. I am told that there is already a plot and I am really grateful to the Government. The plot which the orphanage possesses has been purchased and it has been paid for. But what we need is a building grant from the Government, at least a modest sum, which this institution deserves.

" There is one other point and I am done. It is with regard to the control of education in local areas. All the trouble that we now find is due to the spirit that is displayed by local bodies in the matter of education, specially Muslim education. A resolution is passed by a local board or municipality and the president or the chairman has merely to carry out that resolution and close schools here and there, thereby affecting the education of Muslims in those areas. But here at the centre the Government do not follow such a policy. They want to provide for the special needs and requirements of particular communities, whether Muslims, Harijans or Hindus. They are very, very careful. That being so, the local bodies are not treating us properly; local autonomy, I must say, is being carried to the extreme in this matter, because the members constituting the local bodies feel that they have got a right to enforce their will whenever they have a majority in those bodies and the president or chairman is helpless because he has simply to carry out the mandate, for he owes his position to those people. But the matter is quite different at the centre. Therefore, I urge that all the schools that are now being managed by the local bodies should be taken over by the State and controlled by it.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

" Sir, I am glad that the Education Minister who is himself an expert in this line has made some extra provision in this year's budget and it is gratifying to see that he has announced certain extra grants this year. We are glad he is really interested in the advancement of education, because he has been in the teaching line. He feels the difficulties that the teachers are labouring under. I hope he will give his attention and time to this question also and see that the state of affairs is remedied under his regime."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, Mr. Hameed Khan made a fervent plea for separate schools. (Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur: There is no necessity for such a plea because there is no proposal to abolish them.) Mr. Schamnad, taking always as he does a common sense point of view, says that there is no necessity for such a plea. There is nobody proposing to disturb the existing arrangement. Still, Sir, the psychology that is started by this vigorous plea made by

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the head of a particular group in the Assembly is a psychology fraught with much retrogression for the country. That is why I have risen to make a few remarks on this subject. Mr. Hameed Khan talks about the language difficulty, then about Urdu education and in the next breath he speaks of Muslim culture and religion as the main thing to be preserved. He makes that a plea for separate education. And then there are manners and customs also. Let us take them one by one.

"Let us take for instance, the question of language. Of the the Muslims in our Province who number about 33 lakhs, 12½ lakhs speak Urdu; the rest of them speak either Malayalam or Tamil. (Hameed Khan: 'No, no.') Some speak Telugu also, but not as their mother-tongue, except in parts of the Ceded districts. However, let us not get off on a smaller issue. Of the main body of 33 lakhs of Muslims 12½ lakhs speak Urdu of some kind—excuse my saying so—and the rest speak either Malayalam or Tamil. To mix up and identify the question of Urdu with the question of Islam is therefore not a very correct way of proceeding with the business.

"Then, Sir, let us analyse the basic claim, namely, that on account of religion they should have religious education in the earlier stages and for that they want separate schools. I do not deny that religious instruction is very important. At any rate, personally I feel that religious education is most important. It has nothing to do with Government policy. It has been the policy of the Government which we have taken charge of temporarily, to be secular in education and perhaps whether we like it or not it is the most convenient arrangement in our country filled with so many religions and so much of susceptibility in regard to religion. But I am personally of the opinion that religious education is the most important. Therefore, what is the machinery that we should have for dealing with this thing? I claim that there is no better solution in our country, circumstanced as we are, than recognizing that the home is the proper and only place where we can expect to give this religious education to our boys. Otherwise we cannot deal with the problem satisfactorily or even peacefully or in any manner with practical efficiency. If we do not depend upon the home, either Hindus or Mussalmans, then I say we are really abandoning our own position and we are sure to meet with disappointment. I say this in all sincerity. I do not wish that this is to be connected with any policies of any Government. Speaking as a person who has seen the whole country and seen its difficulties, I claim to contribute my share to the psychology in respect of solutions of difficult problems. If our people—whether they be Hindus or Mussalmans—want religious foundation for their religious culture and education, it is necessary that the home should look after it; it is no use depending upon the school to look after it.

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" Then again with regard to the language, Sir. Much confusion has arisen on account of the use of the word ' mother-tongue '. What we require really to concentrate upon is the use of the regional language. It is necessary wherever we are that our boys and girls should understand well the proper and effective use of the language prevailing in the area in which the boy or the girl has to live and make his or her livelihood. It is all right for a piece of logic or debate to be pressing this language and that language. But I make an earnest appeal to members of the Muslim group to consider what is to happen to their boys and girls. Let us not run away with the notion that a few boys who may go up to some big appointments are the *victims* to be looked at. The object of education should be the entire population, the population as a whole. What trade can a boy do when he grows up to be a man, if he does not know the language of his place, how to wield that language? What business, whether official or non-official, can a boy or girl do unless the regional language is thoroughly understood and becomes a handy weapon for the boy or girl? If a Mappilla boy who does not know Malayalam begins to learn Urdu, what is the good? " 7 p.m

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, may I submit that I never suggested that a Mappilla or Tamil Muslim should give up his regional language. What I said was that he must also learn Urdu as the language of the Mussalmans of India."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Very good, Sir. I have no objection to the proposition, though as it is put it is full of faults. I can pick holes in it; but I do not wish to do so. I do accept the proposition that every Mappilla boy and every Tamil Muslim boy should learn Urdu and I claim I am making my own honest endeavour to make him learn Urdu. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Hameed Khan thinks he speaks Urdu and the boy under my system of education who is learning Hindustani is not learning Urdu. I claim that the boy who goes through the three years course I prescribe will know better Urdu than—excuse my saying it—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan can command at a moment's notice. (Applause.) I do not say that of Mr. Hussain. He spoke beautiful Urdu. Yesterday it was a pleasure when I heard Mr. Hussain speak. I almost imagined I was in North India in a Congress camp. But every Muslim gentleman in Madras does not speak correct Hindustani. But let me come back to my point. I do accept the proposition that a certain grounding in Urdu is necessary. Let us not, when a man is in want of a coat, fight over the length of the sleeve or the shirt. Let us at least get something to cover ourselves with. That is the point. Now, the Urdu with which I want to clothe every boy in our country is good enough clothing for him against the weather. If we wish to find fault with the length of the sleeve, there is time and that can

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be easily corrected by whomsoever that desires to do it. I want a common coat of Urdu to be available to all our boys and girls and not only the Muslim boy or girl.

" Then the question of the regional language is important. It is not merely the Malayalam or the Tamil speaking Muslims that are concerned. Take the Andhra again for instance. There are a number of Urdu speaking families there. There are a number of boys and girls to be educated there. If we so isolate their education that they do not learn a proper and effective use of Telugu they will be at a great disadvantage. Therefore it is that you must all learn to stress the regional language before anything else. And, it is not a difficult thing, let me assure hon. Members, for our boys and girls to learn the regional language to perfection, even though they have a second language, Urdu or Tamil or Malayalam or whatever it may be.

" Then there was a plea for separate Harijan schools. Is Mr. Sahajanandam here? He has left. But that again is a suicidal plea. It is true that we have to tolerate separate Harijan schools. It is true that we have separate schools for separate localities and separate sets of people. At the same time our general policy and our aim should be to have common schools. (Hear, hear.) At no time will untouchability go and at no time can a Harijan boy or girl come up to the level of other boys unless we force this policy willy-nilly upon the people. We may not reach the policy of a united common school. But we must keep it as the aim before us. Otherwise the Harijan boy will not shed his inferiority complex and he will continue to have the inferiority complex. It is not the thing that we should encourage.

" There has been a misconception about the Wardha Scheme. I am deeply hurt by the expression used that the Muslims are against the Wardha Scheme. Why are they against the Wardha Scheme, if they are? I know that they are. But I wish to make a small effort now to do something to prevent that mistake, to reduce that mistake if not actually to remove it. It is a wrong thing to be against the Wardha Scheme because you are a Christian, or because you are a Mussalman or because you are a Hindu. The Wardha Scheme has nothing to do with religion. What is the Wardha Scheme? I can say it in a word. Give the basic education that we give through handicraft, through work and not merely through words. If you want to teach that two *plus* two is four, teach it through work instead of simply making the student commit to memory the symbols which make four. This is all that the Wardha Schme is about. If you want to tell a boy that twelve inches make a foot, do not make him simply commit it to memory, but show him a foot, make him plane a foot, make him mark a foot in the course of some work and give him the information through work. This is all the difference. As a

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matter of fact hon. Members do not know that Muslim boys will be greater adepts in getting through the Wardha Scheme than the Hindu boys on account of the recent perversion through which they have gone. The Muslim boy even now gets his education through his own craft and that is how he gets through elementary education much better, in my opinion, up to a certain stage, than Hindu boys. Therefore, it is unfortunate that anyone because he is a Mussalman or because he is a Hindu or because he is a Christian should be against the Wardha Scheme. If we can introduce the Wardha Scheme properly, it will benefit everybody and it will not benefit one community alone or the other. Unfortunately these slogans have got mixed up. Because Gandhiji has started the Wardha Scheme, does it mean that you should be against it? "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" That is not fair."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I am very glad, Sir, that what I have said has got an immediate denial. I do not want consent in these matters. I want opposition in these matters. Therefore let us put it aside, if not on my appeal, at least on the authority of Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. Let Muslims not oppose the Scheme because Gandhiji has started it or anything like that. Let us understand what the Scheme is and let us support it."

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Religious education should also be taken up."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" That is the point I began, viz., that religious education should be taken up at home and to a certain extent it is possible to give it in the school. If we arrive at the glad day that we hope to arrive at, I am certain that the State in our Province can even run the religious education of our Province. There is no difficulty whatsoever in having in the same school religious education for Hindu boys and Muslim boys and all that. But to-day there are difficulties and frictions and therefore let us look after it mainly in the home. Let us not do anything to spoil it in the school and let us enjoy all that we want in the school through secular education.

" Then, Sir, with regard to general matters, I shall not say anything which the Hon. the Minister for the subject will speak upon. But I must say this, giving vent to my own personal feelings, that this precious money that they get from the people has become, instead of being a grant for education, a bone of contention among different professional sets of people. As I see things, education has become mere disputation between teachers who are interested in the money and managers who are interested in the money rather than really a matter for consideration from

the point of view of the pupils themselves. We must get out of this rut. We must get out of it and see that the money *is utilized really for education purposes* and not look at it from the point of view of the management. In fact it appeared to me sometimes that it will be a good thing to abolish all grants *and devise some other machinery for it.* We knew that till recently in Burma the monks, who went from house to house collecting their own food, who had nothing to look after except religion, had in their charge the whole of the education of Burma. The entire system of elementary education was in the hands of the monks in Burma till recently. I wish that we were able to do that. But we cannot go back. We have got into this secular system of State granting money for education. Homes, peoples and individuals have given up the habit of looking after the individual education of their own children. The villages have given up the habit of the education of their own children and in the present hour we must make the best that is possible. At least at stages let us review the whole position. Let us think honestly and see if we have not spoiled the students. This education, instead of becoming really a matter for pupils, has become a matter for disputation among managers and teachers. If we think seriously in this direction, I have no doubt that the Minister for Education will be able to solve all problems and there will be no difficulty to make a just distribution of the grants of money to the people concerned and we need not imagine that there is any injustice being committed. It was said that the money was better used in former times and that to-day it is dominated by the shadow, by the evil shadow of economy. It is not so. Money is got at with great difficulty and we should use it to the best purpose. What is the use of misusing money? We must use the money that we collect from the people to produce the maximum amount of education and that is why efforts are being made to bring more and more education as the result of each unit of money that we spend. The efforts of the Government to make the best use of the money they have should not be misconstrued as indifference in regard to education. That is all that I wish to say as Finance Minister in this connexion." (Hear, hear.)

* THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" I rise, Sir, to examine the points raised in the course of this debate by various members in different languages in varying moods.

" 1. *Muslim Education—(a) Greater facilities.*—The most widely discussed subject, I find, is Muslim education. Several hon. Muslim Members of the House spoke eloquently on the need for affording greater facilities for the educational advancement of the community. I feel it my duty, Sir, to place all the cards on the table of the House. In the matter of affording facilities for

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the education of Muslims several special facilities have already been provided by the sympathetic Government. It is better to take stock of them before we think of taking another step forward.

"(1) In the matter of *fee concessions and scholarships* I find we have been most generous—generous to a degree which might provoke envy in the eyes of other minor and backward communities. Poor pupils of the Muslim community are allowed half-fee concession in all schools and colleges. We cannot afford to be more generous and grant to these pupils full fee concessions. It has to be borne in mind that the expenditure incurred by the Government on the grant of the present system of half-fee concessions has risen considerably during the past few years, and the Government have been driven to the unpleasant necessity of examining the question of reducing the volume of half-fee concessions that are now granted to various communities. When revising the rules for the granting of half-fee concessions, the hon. the Muslim Members may rest assured that the educational backwardness of the community will not be left out of consideration.

"(2) In the matter of *scholarships* too the Government have been generous to the community. In addition to the general scholarships to which Muslim students are also eligible, a large number of special scholarships are instituted for Muslims in elementary and secondary schools as well as in colleges.

"(i) Twenty-five special scholarships commencing from First Form and continuing throughout the whole of the secondary course.

"(ii) Eighty-three additional scholarships.

"(iii) Four special collegiate scholarships.

"(iv) One additional scholarship in the final Honours class.

"(v) Five residential scholarships of Rs. 10½ each to unmarried Muslim girls in any recognized institution having a recognized hostel.

"(vi) Thirty-two residential scholarships of the value of Rs. 10½ each a month to Hindu and Muhammadan widows in any recognized institution having a recognized hostel of its own.

"(vii) Sixty-five scholarships, varying from Rs. 4 to Rs. 11 according to the classes, awarded to Hindu and Muhammadan widows studying in recognized schools."

(3) Again, one special facility given to the Muslim girls is the *provision of conveyances* for carrying *gosha* pupils to schools and back to their respective homes. This is done

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in 10 or 12 girls' schools. In the Hobart Secondary and Training schools at Royapettah, instead of the old bullock carts, a motor bus has recently been provided for the purpose.

"(4) In the matter of maintaining *special secondary schools* for Muslim students, Government have seven secondary schools for Muslims—two in Madras, one each in Malappuram (in Malabar), in Kurnool, Guntur, Vellore and Trichinopoly. There are also three secondary schools for Muslims under municipal management, and seven under private management. Thus there are already seventeen secondary schools in the Province of Madras.

"(5) Again, Government are maintaining *six training schools for men teachers and six for women teachers*, exclusively for Muslims, besides the special Mappilla training section added to the Government Training School at Cannanore. Last month I visited this training school, and spent some time studying the needs of these Mappilla teachers under training. I found it to be a practical solution of the problem of finding more well trained teachers for Muslim education, and it will interest the hon. Muslim Members to know that I have asked the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals to open similar sections for Muslim teachers in the two Government Training Schools at Calicut for training more Muslim men and women teachers.

"(6) Again, provision is made for increased facilities for *the teaching of Urdu* in the schools where there is sufficient demand for such teaching. The hon. Member representing the Kurnool Muslim constituency, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan, suggested that there should be a parallel system of imparting instruction through Urdu and Telugu or through Urdu and Tamil in one and the same school. Let me explain the present position. (1) In some High schools, there are Urdu sections up to the III Form and where the teaching is in Urdu, nothing has been done to upset the arrangement. (2) As regards the medium of instruction in the High school forms, the position was explained on the floor of this House, while answering a question, at the meeting of the Assembly on the 9th of December 1938. The intention of the Government in introducing the mother tongue or the language of the area, as the medium of instruction, is to save, as far as possible, boys of tender ages of 12 to 15 years, from going through the torture of instruction through a foreign language, and for this purpose, to substitute for English the mother tongue or the spoken language of the area in which the school is situated. In some places or cases it has been found that very few of

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the students attending the school speak Urdu at home, and therefore, the majority of the boys in such schools will not find it difficult to follow teaching in the language of the area, in which they and their parents are living, and will continue to live for good, as permanent citizens of the village or of the town. However, it must be noted that, wherever the strength of Urdu speaking pupils warrants it, the opening of parallel sections for Forms IV, V and VI, with Urdu teaching, is already permitted. It may also be mentioned that pupils whose mother tongue is Urdu, are permitted to answer at examinations in English. Thus, the Hon. Members of this House will realize that we are already doing whatever is possible and practicable to satisfy the Urdu speaking people, and thus help them to preserve and develop their language and culture, on which the hon. Muslim Member from Bezwada laid so much stress last night on the floor of this House.

" (7) In the matter of *teaching religion*, provision is made for religious instruction within school hours in Government schools specially intended for Muslims. The embargo which had previously existed on the expenditure of public funds in giving religious instruction, so far as Muslims are concerned, is removed, thereby enabling municipal councils and district boards to employ religious teachers in schools under their control, whether they are chiefly intended for Muslims or have a satisfactory attendance of Muslim pupils.

" (8) Lastly, a *special college* is maintained by the Government for Muslim students, namely, the Government Muhammadan College, Madras. It will interest the hon. Members of this House to know that this College entails a net cost of about Rs. 50,000 for the College Department alone, which means roughly about Rs. 400 per student.

" I wish, Sir, to comment for a moment on this huge expenditure on Muhammadan College. We do not grudge it, if it really benefited the Muslim community. The hon. Member, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed has given a cut motion—which, however, I am glad he did not move—to discuss the feasibility of relieving the Government of the arduous task and financial burden by taking away the control and management of Government Arts and Professional Colleges. We thank him for his generosity to a hard worked Government with a poor treasury, and wish him good luck in his bold enterprise. If he finds the University, of whose Syndicate he is a Member, unwilling to be as generous as himself to relieve us of this burden, I would suggest to him a modest proposal. Let him, along with his comrades in this House form a Committee, through the Muhammadan Educational Association,

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to take over the management of the Government Muhammadan College, and run it, like the Madras Christian College, Loyola College and Pachaiyappa's College, as a well-managed private College, where the other hon. Member Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig could find full scope for the development of Muslim culture, and thus also satisfy the other hon. Muslim Member from Kurnool, who grew eloquent last night, envying the Hindu culture, in the sense I explained in my speech, from which he quoted *in extenso* last night on the floor of the House."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, I rise to offer a word of explanation. The cut motion which I had given notice of, but which I did not have the privilege to move was intended to draw the attention of the Government to the existence of a section of the University Act which enables them to transfer all professional colleges to the University as a measure of economy. That was my idea, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" I know that section, Sir.

" That is how Muslim friends could display their zeal and enthusiasm for Muslim culture and Muslim education. Cannot all the Muslims of this Province together maintain a single Muhammadan College, while Hindus are maintaining about half a dozen Colleges, and Christians nearly two dozens? I should like to see my Muslim friends provoked to a degree that to-morrow they will assemble in the Party Room and take the first step to take over the management of the Government Muhammadan College, thus enabling the Government to devote at least half of the half a lakh now spent on that College, for increasing the number of Muslim Girls' Schools in the City or in the Province. Even though it may be unbearable for my old friend Sir A. T. Pannir Selvam, who is unfortunately not here at the moment, let me say for the benefit of my comrades on this side of the House, that such a step will be in conformity with the principles of Mahatma Gandhi. Let me take this unexpected opportunity to tell my brother knight that Mahatma Gandhi is not our dictator, but our friend, philosopher and guide. His guidance is safe for the though not safe for those who envy the security of the Treasury Bench.

" From this short aside, Sir, let me resume my main theme. The catalogue of good things done for the Muslims, enumerated by me a little while ago, will make the mouths of others water; while the mouths of my Muslim friends seem to get dry by crying hoarse for further facilities. The facts and figures I have marshalled above ought to convince the hon. Muslim Members of this House that much is being done for Muslims, over and above what is being done to other communities. All these facts show that the Government of Madras are showing an exceptionally keen interest

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in providing special educational facilities to the Muslims—facilities denied to any other single community in the Province. The Government do not grudge them this special favour, considering the desire of the Government to do whatever is possible, for the educational uplift of this backward community, so that they too might take their place along with others as an advanced community, of which we may be proud in our Province. In spite of doing so much for them it is surprising that the hon. Members of this community in this House should unreasonably accuse the Government of indifference to the interests of their community.

" (*b*) *Committee of Enquiry.*—Another demand made by the hon. Member representing the Kurnool Muslim constituency, is to appoint a non-official committee of Muslims to enquire into the present condition of education among Muslims and to make representations for its improvement. He may be excused for bringing up this question. He is a new-comer to the Madras Legislature, and does not know the past history of the problem of Muslim education in our Presidency. But, it is gratifying to see that there are several other Muslim Members in this House whose memory cannot be short.

" It was only five years ago that the report of an influential committee on Muslim education was considered by Government. Of the nine members of that committee, I am glad to see, as many as five are still members of this House, namely, (1) Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, (2) Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur, (3) Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur, (4) Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur, and (5) my Colleague in the Ministry, the Hon. Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur. These hon. Members of this House, I am sure, still recollect the history of that committee and its recommendations. They know how Government examined every one of the large number of important recommendations of that committee and issued the famous G.O. No. 1371, Education, dated the 1st June 1934, which they may well look upon as the Magna Charta of Muslim education in our Presidency. I have already referred to the various measures taken by Government in accordance with the recommendations of the committee.

" If we have not carried out the other recommendations of that committee, it is not for want of sympathy for Muslim education, but, firstly, because some of the recommendations are impracticable and some even unreasonable, and secondly, because the financial position of the Province does not permit the Government to carry out the other recommendations at the present juncture. To-day money is flowing like honey into the tanks of Muslim education. (Laughter.) But, with the improvement of our finances, I may assure the hon. Members that money will be allowed to flow like water into the channels of Muslim education. I may also assure them that, if, due to the flat level of these

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channels, water does not flow freely, I shall go to the extent of pumping water into these channels by a high-power machine. (Laughter.)

" After the explanation I have given of the various measures taken by Government for the educational uplift of the Muslim community, I hope the hon. Member will realize that the appointment of a committee to enquire into and report on the question of Muslim education is superfluous and unnecessary at the present moment.

-30 p.m. " (c) *More Muslim Girls High Schools.*—Some hon. Members of this House have urged the need for more high schools for Muslim girls. Indeed, we have only one complete secondary school for Muslim girls in the Presidency, and that is the Hohart Secondary School at Royapettah. But, there are several girls high schools in the Presidency, which are open to Muslim girls as well. It has been suggested that the existing Middle School for girls at Kurnool in the North and at Kallidaikurichi in the South may be developed into a high school. The hon. Member, Mrs. Yakub Hasan, in her maiden and pathetic speech, ably and warmly supported by Mr. Langley, urged the need for opening a Muslim Girls' High School in George Town which is indeed a large and crowded centre of Muslim population in the City. She also drew attention to the unsatisfactory hostel accommodation in the Hobart Secondary and Training School. The need for improving this school, not only by better hostel accommodation but also by providing adequate playground, has been already examined by me by a personal inspection of the existing buildings and the playground. I am studying this question, and I hope and trust Mr. Basheer Ahmed will study the other question I put to him a few minutes ago.

" In this connexion, I have to inform the House, particularly hon. Members, Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan, Mrs. Yakub Hasan, and Srimathi Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar and Srimathi Lakshmi Bharati that I have already taken up the question of having some more high schools in the Presidency for girls' education. During my somewhat extensive tours, as Parliamentary Secretary, in the Andhra Desa, including Rayalseema, and in the Tamil Nad districts, the one fact that struck me is the scarcity of high schools for girls as contrasted with my area of Malabar and South Kanara. I believe it is time to cry halt to the expansion of high schools for boys, not because they give trouble by their constant strikes but because we have already a good number of them all over the districts. Therefore, more money has to be spent on women's education. To the cart of our national, social and economic progress are now yoked two buffaloes, one manly and strong, and the other anæmic and weak, so much so that when one fellow pulls forward, his sister pulls backward, with the result that the cart has advanced only by a few furlongs in the course of a century.

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" It will be gratifying to the House to know that one of the first things I did after assuming office was to ask our Director of Public Instruction to make a survey of the Presidency with a view to find out the places where high schools for girls are needed, and also to suggest if local bodies and any private agencies could be found, in different needy localities willing to help the Government, or rather the public with the aid of the Government, by opening high schools for girls. The needs of George Town, Kurnool, Kallidaikurichi, Cuddapah and Ellore as well as of other places will be carefully considered after the report of the Director of Public Instruction is received. The hon. Members of the House may rest satisfied that, by the time of the next budget session, I shall be in a position to lay before the House a plan of expansion of women's education, something like the ten-year plan of engineering expansion, known as the Vipan Scheme. Without careful planning, neither elementary education nor adult education nor women's education could make any satisfactory progress.

" With your permission, Sir, and with the indulgence of my hon. friends of the Muslim community, I feel it necessary to tell them that there is no use of arguing in a vicious circle: 'How to open Muslim Girls' High Schools without Muslim girls?' says the Government and the Department; while Mrs. Yakub Hasan says: 'How to have Muslim girls without Muslim Girls Schools?' There is great force in her contention; but there is equally great force, if not greater force, in my considered opinion which other hon. Members of this House, I am sure, will share with me. To improve the attendance of Muslim boys and girls in the already existing schools it is necessary for the Muslim leaders in South India and organizations like the Muhammadan Educational Association as well as the hon. Members of this House—whose eloquence sometimes with fire and vigour, sometimes with pathos and pity, has been resounding only in this magnificient hall when well-lit by electricity—to take a little more interest, outside this hall, in Muslim education by creating in the Muslim community a greater desire for education.

" Let me also place before them, Sir, another important consideration, in the hope that my good friends will not misunderstand this friend of theirs. I must request, as a friend of the community to send at least their grown up boys and girls to common schools, wherever feasible; so that, by rubbing shoulders with boys and girls of other advanced communities, Muslim boys and girls might get their angularities rounded off and get more and more advanced, and thus cultivate the ideal of fellowship and brotherhood, so essential as one of the fundamental aims of modern education for citizenship, and so vital as one of the powerful forces promoting communal harmony and national solidarity. A backward community can make progress only by getting into intimate contact with more advanced communities; and unless they are

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given opportunities for this contact in their younger days, I have no doubt in my mind, the advancement of the community will be retarded. With adequate provision being assured for the study of Urdu and for religious instruction, I say, as an educationist and as a friend of the Muslim community, that, in the best interests of both the community and the country, Muslim boys and Muslim girls should be educated respectively in boys' schools and girls schools that are already open to all castes and creeds. If they prefer to remain in the same state of educational, economic, and social backwardness, the Government are prepared to open more schools, both for elementary and secondary education of Muslim boys and girls, when adequate money is found available for the purpose.

"(d) *Separate system of Education.*—I come now, Sir, to the point urged by the hon. Muslim Member from Bezwada, who wants a separate educational scheme for Muslims and a separate allotment ear-marked for the purpose in the Budget. As the hon. Member, Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig was a member of the Committee on Muslim education I referred to before, he must have known the considered opinion of the Government, contained in the Order which was issued on the Committee's recommendations. I may be permitted, Sir, to read out three sentences from that famous Government Order, for enabling him to refresh his memory and for the benefit of the other Muslim members of this House.

'The recommendations of the Committee are pitched much higher than what the educational needs of the community would justify, and they aim at setting up a parallel and separate system of education for Muhammadans only. The Government consider that such segregation is more likely to retard than help the educational progress of Muhammadans. Apart from this, the Committee's proposal is impracticable on financial grounds.'

"I do not see, Sir, any new reasons advanced to justify any departure from the policy laid down by the then Government. If the Government of 1934 considered such segregation harmful to the educational progress of the community, there is greater reason for the present Government to give the same advice to the community. If the Government of 1934 found the proposal impracticable on financial grounds, there is less chance of the present Government finding the proposal less impracticable on financial grounds. Therefore, Sir, the point of view urged by my hon. Friend from Bezwada is one which the Government may be kindly excused for not being in a position to support.

"*II. Physical Education.*—Having disposed of that main point of discussion, I will now pick out a few points raised by different members. My esteemed friend, the representative of the Indian Christian constituency of Madras and Chingleput, raised the question of furthering the cause of physical education in the Province. I appreciated all that he said, but on one point he needs a little more light. He referred to the Bengal Government having set apart a lakh of rupees as recurring expenditure for physical education."

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SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" On a point of corrction, Sir. Two and a half lakhs of rupees have been set apart by that Government, of which one and a half lakhs will be recurring grant every year."

* THE HON SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" I am glad the hon. Member has corrected me, and I thank him for the same. I may say that this proposal of the Bengal Government only amounts to giving a square meal to a man who has been starving all along. In our Province physical education has already had two square meals a day.

" (1) We have had a College of Physical Education for some years now, though conducted by Y.M.C.A., and that was the only College in the whole of India, and it was only just the other day that Bombay started the second College of Physical Education in India.

" (2) We have been spending a sum of nearly Rs. 12,000 on the central establishment on physical education, consisting of an Adviser to Government on Physical Education, an Assistant for Girls' Physical Education, both being part-time officers, and a full-time Senior Physical Education Director. All these officers have been going round the Presidency, inspecting and guiding the work that is being done in different institutions.

" (3) We are meeting the cost—fully in Government institutions and partly in local board, municipal and private institutions—of maintaining instructors of physical education.

" (4) Moreover, we have spent, and are still spending, a large sum of money on providing adequate playgrounds.

" Thus, Sir, we have been doing already much for the furtherance of the cause of physical education. Indeed, much more has to be done, and we propose to examine, in the near future, the question of further expansion of physical education work in the Province.

" *III. Flags and Songs.*—Another hon. Member referred to the hoisting of the Indian National Congress flag and singing of the Vandemataram song. The position the Government have taken in these matters stands as follows. There has been a certain amount of indefiniteness and want of clear direction. On the subject of flag hoisting we have already issued a Government Order (No. 32, L.A., dated 5th January 1939), which I will read to hon. Members, as some of them may not be aware of it."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The whole Government Order need not be read."

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* THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" I will read only one sentence, Sir.

'The Government advise that where any local body decides that on any special occasion any particular kind of decoration should be made, or that any flag should be hoisted on the school building, the local body should retain the flags or other materials in its possession, and issue them to such institutions as desire them.'

" As regards the Vandemataram Song, attention was drawn to rule 9 of the Madras Education Rules which lays down ' among other conditions, that no pupil should be permitted to attend any form of religious instruction or observance without the written consent of the guardian or parent.'

" *IV. Osmania University Students.*—One hon. Member grew eloquent over a supposed action of the Government in the matter of admitting to the Engineering College, Guindy, certain students of the Osmania University. I am sorry, he wasted all his eloquence in this Chamber, forgetting that, though this is called the Senate House, it is not the place where the University Senate meets now-a-days. His accusations had to be directed against the University, and not against the Government. I hope, next time when he directs such an attack, he will come armed with facts.

" *V. Detention in Examinations.*—Another hon. Member referred to the undesirability of detaining students after the school or selection examinations. As a teacher of some standing in the profession, I am not convinced of the desirability of promoting every student to the next higher class or of not detaining students that are found unfit to go up for a public examination. Those who advocate such measures are doing so, not in the best interest of students, for whom hard, steady work at school is needed for success in life later on.

-45 .m. " *VI. Abolition of District Educational Councils.*—Swami Sahajanandam complained of the abolition of the District Educational Councils. Indeed, to managers who were influencing these councils and manipulating methods of getting recognition and aid to their schools, the abolition of the District Educational Councils must be unwelcome. But I can assure the hon. Members of this House that the new bodies that will be created soon, as substitutes for the District Educational Councils, will be found more suitable and effective for the expansion of elementary education. I have not the time, Sir, to explain the scheme of the new bodies that are called' Taluk Advisory Education Committees.' The scheme will be published in a few days, and the hon. Members will then know how the new Committees are constituted and what their functions are."

" *VII. Missionary educational work.*—The same hon. Member complained of the work of conversion that these institutions are supposed to be carrying on. I do not think the hon. Member was

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logical when he generalized from his own single instance. There must be several hon. Members of this House who have had their education in missionary institutions. I would appeal to them to examine their conscience, and discover for themselves the truth of the general statement, so constantly made in this House by this Swami. We ought to appreciate and recognize the great service missionary educational and charitable institutions have rendered, and are still rendering, to our country.

"*VIII. Study of Hindustani.*—Now, I come to that great issue, namely, the compulsory study of Hindustani. Sir, the Hon. the Leader of this House has explained and justified, time and again, the policy of the Government in this matter. I think it is unnecessary for me to take up the time of this House with any further explanation or justification of this policy. If any one of the hon. Members should like to have an hour's talk with me on this subject, I shall be ever ready to receive him and try to convince him that, for various reasons—academic and economic, educational and psychological, social and national—the policy adopted by the Government is sound, namely, (1) the compulsory study, (2) not in elementary, but only in secondary schools, and (3) in I to III Forms, not IV to VI Forms. If I have to explain the whole subject, I will have to take up an hour of the precious time of the House. Yet, Sir, permit me to take up a few minutes to bring out a few ideas which are either overlooked, or deliberately suppressed, by those who talk on the public platforms on this policy of the Government.

"If the South Indian languages—Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada—have not had their natural growth, and if the rise of poets, dramatists, scientists, authors and speakers in South Indian languages, in our modern days, has been anything but satisfactory, it is to be attributed to the undue prominence given—in courses of studies, in examinations, in business and in public life—to the foreign intruder. I am not one of those who condemn the English language and literature, which has done a great service to our country by rousing us to a sense of self-respect, self-reliance and self-dependence, through the instrumentality of Western philosophy, based on the three cardinal principles of liberty, equality and fraternity. I think it necessary that English should continue as a language of culture and of international communication; but I will not permit it to kill our mother-tongues. English will be given its rightful place in our school and college time tables. Instead we have to devote more attention to the mother-tongue. It has to be the first language of study, not the second language, in which a pass at the examinations is regarded by teachers as of secondary importance. The mother-tongue, or the local language of the area, has also to be the medium of instruction, to save our children from the torture of instruction in a foreign language.

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"If the Government had not adopted the policy of thus emphasising the importance of our mother-tongue and had them introduced Hindustani as a language of compulsory study, I too would have rebelled against Hindustani along with my brother knight who is absent from the House now. If any one were to plead for the retention of English as the first language of study and as the medium of instruction, wherever a local language could take its place, it is an unreasonable attitude. When so much is being done for the mother-tongues by the present Government out of true self-respect, as every other self-respecting nation does to-day, it is deplorable and shameful—deplorable for our national cause and shameful for us before other nations—that a group of men—whether Aryans or Dravidians—should, for want of true self-respect, go about preaching the gospel of English as the *lingua-franca* of India and as the medium of instruction.

"In spite of the opposition of a few, we have decided, in the wider interests of our country, and ignoring the unreasonable opposition, to go ahead with our sound policy in this matter. Instead of reconsidering the matter and retracing our steps, we are convinced that we were doing the right thing by the country when we made provision in the budget for 1939–40 for introducing Hindustani in 100 more schools. If we have not thought of introducing it in more schools, it is not, as the hon. Member Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar said, for want of funds, but because of the lack of Hindustani teachers, especially when we are anxious to have, as far as possible, teachers who know both the scripts Nagari and Persian. As we get them trained, we shall introduce Hindustani in all the hundreds of secondary schools in the Province, in the course of, say, another three or four years. I would request the hon. Members opposing Government's policy in the matter, to be more rational and national in their criticism of the policy of the Government in this important matter, and as rational beings, allow reason to dawn on their minds.

"*IX. Wardha Scheme of Education.*—Although it is already late, permit me, Sir, to touch upon one more point raised in the course of the discussion by several hon. Members of this House, namely, the Wardha Scheme of education. Let me assure the hon. Members that it is a simple system based on the common sense point of view, of the sound pedagogical principle of 'learning by doing.' It is an improved edition of Dalton Plan and Montessori System. When I visited Wardha School, there was an English lady, who is the head of a Training School in England, who accompanied me when I visited the classes at work. This impartial critic remarked to me that this system of Wardha Scheme of education was even superior to the Montessori System. I wish the hon. Members had studied the scheme before participating in the discussion.

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" There is nothing that could be resented or opposed by Muslims and Christians. There is nothing of Vedantic teaching in the system. Perhaps, some hon. Members confused the terms 'Wardha ' and ' Vedanta.' If anybody wanted to impart religious instruction, it is open to them to do so, as is even now being done in our present schools. I can assure the hon. Members that there is no connexion between politics and the Wardha Scheme. This system of teaching is good for anybody. It is not opposed to any political creed or to Islamic or Christian culture.

" I wish I were in a position to give a complimentary copy of this book to every member of this House. Unfortunately I am only the author of the book, and not its publisher. The first edition of the book was sold out in two months, and I hear from the publishers, the Oxford University Press, that the second edition of the book will be out on Monday the 27th instant. Perhaps, if you permit, Sir, I may arrange for the sale of the book to the hon. Members of this House, at the entrance to this Chamber.

" X. *Universal compulsory elementary education.*—I believe, Sir, I have covered all the important points except one, namely, introduction of universal compulsory elementary education. If we have not been able to introduce it everywhere in the Province, it is because of the huge expenditure involved in this affair. In 1935 the cost of introducing free and compulsory primary education for all boys in this Province, was estimated at Rs. 360 lakhs per annum, recurring, and Rs. 470 lakhs, non-recurring. Three times this sum will be required if all girls of the school-going age were also to be brought under compulsion. In view of the financial implications of the proposal, the introduction of Universal compulsory elementary education is not a practical proposition—at any rate for some years to come. If we are to introduce compulsory education, the first thing required is to provide school places for all the children to be brought within the scope of compulsion. This is a prohibitive and excessive item of expenditure under the present system of education.

" Therefore it is that we are examining how far the Wardha Scheme, with its self-supporting character, could be adopted as a practical solution of this problem. There is the cry of more vocational education and also the cry to make the present secondary education more practical. The Wardha Scheme is well calculated to solve this triple problem of more elementary education, more vocational education and a more practical secondary education. But the first difficulty to introduce the Wardha System is to get the right type of teachers, and we are now looking out for a suitable site and building to start a training school on Wardha lines. We hope to be ready with our plans at the beginning of the next academic year.

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" Sir, I am thankful to you for having allowed me so much time to examine the points raised in the course of the debate on this Demand and to explain the point of view of the Government in relation to each one of the points raised. I am thankful, Sir, to the hon. Members for having patiently listened to me, and I hope the mover of the cut motion will be satisfied with the explanations I have given, and will accordingly withdraw the cut motion."

(K. Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur rose to speak after the Hon. Minister had finished his speech.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think it is time that we should close. Is the hon. Member going to raise any point of order? "

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" No, Sir. I want to speak on a point of explanation, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No point of explanation arises after the Hon. the Minister has replied."

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Sir, in view of the Hon. the Minister's long and learned discourse on education in general and Muslim education in particular, I do not press the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

(While the Demand was being put by the Speaker some hon. Members in different parts of the House were seen standing.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Hon. Members must not stand when the Speaker is standing. They must be seated. There must be some decorum."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Saturday, 25th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

* *Qs.* 1028 *to* 1031 [a]

Nature and extent of relief given to the people affected by the recent cyclone on the North Madras Coast.

* 1032 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the nature of damage done by the recent cyclone on North Madras Coast;

(*b*) which are the places affected;

(*c*) whether any relief was given; and

(*d*) if so, what the nature of the relief is?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Statements [b] showing the damage caused by the cyclone of November 1938 in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna are placed on the table of the House.

" (*c*) & (*d*) The Government sanctioned a grant of Rs. 10,000 to each of the districts of Kistna and West Godavari and Rs. 3,000 to the East Godavari district. The amounts were utilized in relieving real distress. Arrangements were made on the spot by the Collectors for the provision of food and the supply of hutting materials where necessary.

" His Excellency the Governor has also issued an appeal to the general public for contributions for the relief of distress caused by the cyclone. The amount collected will be spent in the three districts. The Collectors have submitted proposals on the matter which are under consideration.

" The usual season remissions are also being granted where necessary."

SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that the North Vizagapatam district also has been affected by the recent cyclone? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" North Vizagapatam district was affected by the cyclone that preceded the last one in those districts."

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[a] Vide pages 678–682 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix I on pages 748–750 infra.

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SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—"What is the percentage of the crop that is estimated this year?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice, Sir."

Recognition of the Tiruchendur Taluk Village Officers' Association.

* 1033 *Q.*—SRI L. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Tiruchendur Taluk Village Officers' Association applied to the Government for recognition;

(*b*) if so, what the Government's reply was; and

(*c*) the conditions that must be fulfilled before an Association of this kind is recognized?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) In his letter to the Government File No. 1, dated 17th January 1939, the Secretary of the Tiruchendur Taluk Village Officers' Association stated that an application through the proper channel for the official recognition of the Association would be submitted to the Government. No such application has been received.

"(*c*) A copy [a] of the instructions regarding the recognition by the Government of Madras of associations of their employees other than associations of industrial employees and employees in the Police and Jail departments is laid on the table. It is not usual to recognize small associations if a central association exists to which they can be affiliated."

Action taken on the resolution of the Assembly regarding the Madras Estates Land Act Committee Report.

* 1034 *Q.*—SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that on account of doubts cast during the Assembly discussions on the Madras Estates Land Act Committee Report, as to the legality of enhanced assessments which the zamindars have been levying on the ryots, a difficult situation has arisen in the zamindari areas in connexion with rent collections;

(*b*) what action the Government have taken on the resolution passed by the Assembly on the 27th January 1939, that the Madras Estates Land Act Committee Report should be followed up by suitable legislation; and

(*c*) when such a Bill will be introduced in the Assembly?

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a Printed as Appendix II on pages 751–752 infra.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) Certain representations in regard to this matter were received and a Press Communiqué was published on the 26th December 1938 with a view to remove possible misapprehensions on the part of zamindari tenants.

" (b) & (c) Necessary steps are being taken. Just now, the matter is under examination by a Special Officer."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Hon. the Revenue Minister will issue orders to the District authorities to co-operate fully with the estate officials and expedite the collections in the zamindari areas? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" No special instructions are needed. The District officers are co-operating as much as possible."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" May I ask if the Government are aware that owing to the impending legislation and the disturbed and unsettled condition of affairs, the collections in the zamindari areas have become very tardy? Have not representations to that effect been made to the Government? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Representations have been made to that effect. A Press Communiqué has been issued and even otherwise instructions have been issued to do all that is necessary to remove misapprehensions. It is not always correct to say that the money could not be collected by the landholders because of the impending legislation. It is also due to the fact that the tenants have no money in their hands."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask whether the Special Officer is examining the general aspect of the question or is actually preparing the Bill? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" The Special Officer referred to is examining the whole thing with a view to place the material for the preparation of the Bill."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I ask whether the Government have any information that the Collectors have not been co-operating in the matter of the collection of the rents due to the zamindars? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" No, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" Village officers are generally not carrying on the work of the zamindari areas. They generally say that they have work in the Taluk offices. Therefore the collection work is impeded. Seeing that this is the collection season, may I request the Hon. Minister to make enquiries in the districts and see that full co-operation is given by the village officers in the matter of collection of rent? "

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Yes, the matter will be considered."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask when, according to the calculations of the Government, it is likely that this matter will come up again before this House in the form of a Bill? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" It is not easy to give any such information just now."

SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Sir, are the Government aware that in certain districts the zamindars have given up certain irrigation works which they had begun before the discussion of the Report? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" It is quite possible that many things are going on both on the side of the ryot as well as on the side of the zamindar in some places."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the importance of this question, may I ask, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to say approximately at least when this Bill will be introduced? Will it be before the expiry of the financial year 1939–40? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Will the hon. Member repeat his question? "

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I have suggested that in view of the importance of the question . . ."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, can the hon. Member make a suggestion? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" He is putting a question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" He said he had suggested."

MR. SPEAKER:—" By inadvertence he said that. The hon. Member may frame his question."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, when, according to the calculations of the Government, this matter will be brought up again for our consideration in view of the very great importance of the question and the vital interests involved in the subject covered by the resolution of the Legislature? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" The Goverument are doing all that is necessary to expedite the matter in pursuance of the resolution of the House."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask what is the additional information or material that is being collected by the Special Officer which was not available to the Committee? May I also ask whether such material will be taken into . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" One question at a time."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" No extra information is being collected by the Special Officer. The report as approved by the House is being examined with a view to place it on a proper basis for framing a Bill and presenting it to the House."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May we take it that this examination will not involve any departure from the principles accepted by this House? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" No such thing is being done. The work that is being done is done in the office. It is a matter to be considered by the Government."

Investigation and preparation of schemes for utilizing the waters of the rivers, streams and springs now running to waste.

* 1035 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal with the Government to instruct the district P.W.D. officers to investigate and prepare schemes in each district for the utilization of so much of the waters of the rivers, streams and springs, under Government control as now run to waste?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" The Government have prescribed a quarterly return showing the progress made in the investigation and preparation of projects all over the Presidency and this return enables them to watch the activities of the Public Works Department officers in the matter of the utilization of the waters of rivers, streams, etc. These progress reports contain brief descriptions of projects undertaken, when investigation was commenced, the progress made in the preparation of plans and estimates, etc. A consolidated report showing the work done during a year is published annually for public information."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Subbaraman, in whose name the question No. 1036 stands is absent."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" I request that the question may be answered."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Why? "

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" To avoid notice of further questions."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question may be answered."

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Licensees supplying electric energy in the Presidency and the areas and rates of such supply.

* 1036 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many electric licensees there are in the Presidency;

(*b*) how many of them are private companies, and how many local bodies and what they are;

(*c*) in which areas these licensees supply energy;

(*d*) how much energy does each licensee supply;

(*e*) what the rates of the energy sold by the various private companies and local bodies are; and

(*f*) how much each licensee sells at annas two and above two annas and below two annas, respectively (to be given separately)?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) There are 77 licensees, of whom 42 are companies and 35 local authorities. A statement [a] giving the names of the licensees and the area served by each is laid on the table of the House.

"(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to Appendices D-1 and D-2 of the Administration Report of the Electricity Department for 1937–38.

"(*e*) & (*f*) The rates charged for supply of energy are different in different areas and in the same area they are different for different purposes. The details of rates are published at a nominal price by each licensee for his area for the benefit of the consumers. It will involve considerable time, labour and cost to prepare a consolidated statement."

SRI P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government adhere to the policy of granting licences to private companies in areas in which the local bodies do not wish to apply for licences?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The hon. Member is putting a curious question. His question is: if in an area the local body concerned does not apply for a licence for that area, will the Government give a licence to a private licensee? My reply is that the application will be considered on its merits."

SRI P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I am sorry, Sir, the Hon. Minister has misunderstood me. I only wanted to know whether in cases where the local bodies do not apply for licences, private individuals will be allowed to apply for licences. Is it the policy of the Government to give licences to private persons if local bodies do not apply for them?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The two things are different. One is application and the other is giving. The hon. Member has put two questions."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 752–754 infra.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" A private company may apply and the question of giving a licence will be considered."

SRI P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" I am only asking for information about the policy of the Government, whether they propose to give licences to private licensees in cases where applications from local bodies are not forthcoming in any area."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Minister has already answered that the application will be considered on its merits."

SRI P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" Am I to understand, Sir, that private applications also will be considered? "

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" The hon. Member asks for the policy of the Government; I enunciated the policy only the day before yesterday."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I request the Government to state whether they will consider the necessity of standardizing the rates charged per unit, both by local bodies as well as by private companies? "

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" It is impossible to standardize the rates for obvious reasons."

Condition of the walls in the new extensions of the General Hospital, Madras.

* 1037 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the causes that led to the presence of several openings and cleavages in the walls of the new extensions of the General Hospital, Madras;

(*b*) who the contractor was that built these new extension buildings;

(*c*) whether any guarantee was taken from him for the abovesaid work for any specified period for verifying the good condition of these buildings;

(*d*) if not, why not; and

(*e*) what steps the Government propose to take to avoid such things recurring in future?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" (*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

" (*e*) The point will be considered after receipt of the information called for."

SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR :—" Mr. Speaker, may I know how much time it will take this Government to just call for a report from the General Hospital which is in the City itself? "

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, the information cannot be called for from the General Hospital direct. A letter has to go to the Chief Engineer; the Chief Engineer will send it to the Superintending Engineer; the Superintending Engineer will send it to the Executive Engineer; that Executive Engineer will make enquiries and report the result to the Superintending Engineer and he will report it to the Chief Engineer, and he will report it again to the Secretariat. It is thus that information has to be called for." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" And probably it will have to go back again through all these channels."

SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR:—" Why all this? The Hon. Minister may go and see these things himself on his way to his house."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" If there is any important thing about which an hon. Member puts a question, I may attend to it myself; and it may occur to me to go and see, and it will not be necessary for the hon. Member to make the suggestion."

SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR:—" Since a large sum of money has been spent on brick and mortar in the General Hospital, I hope, Sir, the Hon. Minister will go and see these things himself."

Changes made in the Town-Planning Department.

* 1038 *Q*.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that certain changes have been made in the Town-Planning department; and

(*b*) if so, what these changes are?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The post of Director of Town-Planning has been abolished, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been appointed ex officio Director of Town-Planning, and the post of Personal Assistant to the Director of Town-Planning has been revived."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Inspector of Local Boards is an expert, so far as town-planning is concerned, and on that account, may I know whether the Government have made this appointment? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The work of town-planning is not a perpetual business. When once the town-planning has been laid out, then it is necessary for the executive officers to carry it out and see that the plan is

carried out according to specifications. So, the real execution of it belongs to the head of the department; and the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils being the chief of the department, he is made the chief officer with regard to town-planning. But the Personal Assistant to the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils is a qualified officer and he helps him in all these technical matters."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the town-planning work throughout the Presidency has been completed, and if there are not many other places where town-planning has not yet been completed?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Town-planning takes such a lot of time. It is impossible that all municipalities can be covered in a very short period. But a number of municipalities have adopted the town-planning scheme already. Whenever new town-planning schemes are to be devised, there is an expert staff at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils for that purpose."

Reduction in the rate of seigniorage fee charged by the Forest department for green-manure.

*1039 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount realized by the sale of green-manure by the Forest department last year;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the cultivators feel that the seigniorage fee of Rs. 1-4-0 per cart-load is very high; and

(*c*) whether the Government will consider the question of reducing the said fee?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(*a*) Rs. 7,000.

"(*b*) The fee varies from 4 annas to Rs. 3-2-0 per cart-load. Representations have been received for the reduction of the fee.

"(*c*) The question is under consideration."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister, seeing that the quantity of green-manure taken is very little, whether there is any chance of the whole forest being wiped out, if people are allowed to take leaves free?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"In the interests of the forests, I think it will not be possible."

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Exclusion of the " Asavas " and " Arishtas " from the operation of the Prohibition Act.

* 1040 *Q.*—SRI KONDA VENKATAPPAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether on behalf of the 17th Andhra Provincial Ayurvedic Conference held at Gudivada (Kistna district) any resolution was submitted to the Government praying for the withdrawal of the Press Communiqué, dated 20th September 1938, applying section 16 of the Madras Prohibition Act to " Asavas " and " Arishtas " ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have considered the desirability of excluding the " Asavas " and " Arishtas " from the operation of the Prohibition Act?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) The hon. Member presumably has in mind the press communiqué, dated 28th September 1938. The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The question of relaxing the restrictions so far as ' Asavas ' and ' Arishtas ' are concerned is under the consideration of the Government."

Exploitation by the officers of Government of the results of research conducted by them by patenting those results.

* 1041 *Q.*—[a] MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government officers are allowed to patent the results of research conducted by them, and exploit them commercially in their name or in the name of their wives;

(*b*) whether " Ascu " timber preservative is a patent by a Government officer; and

(*c*) whether it is commercially exploited in this country, and if so, in whose name it is patented?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Fundamental Rules 48-A and 48-B and the instructions under those rules.

" (*b*) No officer of this Government has taken out such a patent.

" (*c*) This Government have no information as regards the commercial exploitation of the Ascu process, but it is open to them to use that process without payment of royalty for their own purposes. The patent seems to have been taken out by an officer who was working under the Government of India."

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[a] The member was absent; the question was answered with the consent of the Speaker.

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Progress of sericulture.

* 1042 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state, with reference to the improvements effected by the sericultural section between 1920–21 and 1936–37, how far the local production has replaced the foreign production during that period?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"Since the imports as well as the local production of silk are not constant, it is not possible to gauge how far the local production has with reference to the improvements effected during 1920–21 to 1936–37 in this Province, replaced foreign imports."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Will the Parliamentary Secretary kindly state whether there has been any enhancement in the production at all, during these years?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"How much?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"Notice, Sir."

Progress of alkali industry at Mettur.

* 1043 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the stage reached by the alkali industry which is in progress at Mettur;

(b) what the possibilities of this industry are; and

(c) the interest the Government have got in it?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 15 at page 13 of the Administration Report of the Industries Department for 1937–38 which is available in the Library of the Madras Legislature.

"(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 12 at page 10 of the Administration Report of the Industries Department for 1936–37, and also to paragraphs 10–12 at pages 7–9 of Mr. Green's pamphlet on 'the prospects of developing the Mettur settlement into an industrial centre' copies of which are available in the Library of the Madras Legislature.

"(c) The Government are generally interested in all industrial developments that take place in the Province."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know from the Parliamentary Secretary what the progress made is, since the reports

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were written some years ago; whether any progress has been made or whether we are to go on like this?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"I have just said that the report has dealt with the progress made during the year 1937–38."

Preliminary study for establishing calcium carbide and other connected industries at Mettur.

* 1044 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the result of the preliminary study for establishing the calcium carbide and connected industries at Mettur is;

(*b*) whether the study has been made by any experts; and

(*c*) if so, who they are?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 12 at pages 11–12 and to paragraph 15 at page 14 respectively of the Administration Reports of the Industries Department for the years 1937 and 1938 and also to page 51 of the 'Note on the Economic Resources of the Province of Madras and the possibilities of their development,' by the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, copies of which are available in the Library of the Madras Legislature."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I request you, Sir, to direct the Members of Government to give us some information instead of referring us to some Government Orders, paragraphs and pages of reports, etc.? It will be much easier for us if Members of Government give us the information straightaway."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What does the Parliamentary Secretary say?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"I submit, Sir, these reports are printed and sent to all hon. Members to be made use of."

MR. SPEAKER:—"And therefore it will be convenient for hon. Members to refer to the pages mentioned." (Laughter.)

Supply of forms and books to Local Boards and Municipalities, by Messrs. Hoe & Co., Madras.

* 1045 *Q.*—SRI P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the value of the annual indent to Messrs. Hoe & Co., Madras, by all the Local Boards and Municipalities for 1938–39;

(*b*) why the various forms and books supplied by the said firm cannot be supplied by the Government Press;

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(c) whether the Government called for tenders from other printers and publishers and satisfied themselves that the rates and prices quoted by Messrs. Hoe & Co. are the lowest;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the inordinate delay in obtaining supply of forms and books from this company; and

(e) whether there is any objection to local authorities obtaining their supply of books and forms from local printers and publishers at equal or lower rates?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—"(a) Rupees 49,784–5–9 for Local Boards and Rs. 34,677–10–10 for Municipal Councils.

"(b) The Government Press is primarily maintained for the printing of Government work and it may not always be possible to undertake printing of forms, etc., for local bodies without detriment to the work done for Government. It is also considered undesirable that Government should enter into competition with private printers. As the work to be done for the local bodies at the Government Press will represent a small percentage of the total printing done at the Press, printing at Government Press may be uneconomical for local bodies. The rates of the Government Press are not cheaper than the rates charged by a private firm like Messrs. Hoe & Co.

"(c) Messrs. Hoe & Co. have been the contractors from the year 1912. On a representation from another contractor the contract was cancelled in 1925 and fresh tenders were invited. The tender of Messrs. Hoe & Co. was accepted by Government after consultation with the Superintendent, Government Press, being the most suitable.

"(d) There has been no avoidable delay on the part of the suppliers. On the contrary, complaints are received from Messrs. Hoe & Co., every year by the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, that many local bodies do not observe due dates or remit the cost of printing.

"(e) The question is separately under consideration. Because of central printing at Madras, there has been uniformity in price and quality. The Government Translator is responsible for translating the forms and for overseeing the proofs and the Examiner for fixing the prices of the new forms. These advantages would be lost to the local bodies if local printing is permitted. It is also doubtful if there are many presses in the districts equipped for this type of work. It is undesirable that bill-books and money value passes should be printed locally."

Sri KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the Cocanada Municipality got their forms printed locally and that the Government did not take any action?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Notice, Sir."

Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Will the Parliamentary Secretary for Local Administration be pleased to state for how long it is that Messrs. Hoe & Co. have been doing this service?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" From the year 1912, as already stated in the answer to clause (c)."

Sri V. S. R. M. VALLIYAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" Will it not be profitable to call for fresh tenders and compare the rates now existing with those that existed before, especially now after so many years?"

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" As stated in clause (e) of the answer, the question is separately under consideration."

Disparity in the scale of pay allowed for teachers with the same qualifications working in the Panchayat, District Board and Labour schools.

* 1046 *Q.*—Sri D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for the different scale of pay allowed for teachers with the same qualifications working in the Panchayat, District Board and Labour schools, respectively;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to take steps to remove the disparity; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to take suitable measures for the disbursement of teaching grants to all Panchayat schools in each month regularly?

The Hon. Sri C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) The difference in the scales of pay for teachers in district board schools and in schools under the Labour department is due to the fact that district boards are not generally in a position to adopt the higher scales of pay in vogue for teachers under the Labour department. In the case of teachers in panchayat schools, no scales of pay have been fixed by the Government.

" (*b*) The question of removing the disparity will be considered some time later.

" (*c*) The question of disbursing grants in each month regularly will be considered some time later."

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Compulsory primary education in municipalities.

* 1047 *Q.*—SRI V. BHUVARAHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of municipalities in which compulsory primary education is in force; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take for the introduction of compulsory education in the remaining municipalities also?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) Twenty-seven.

" (*b*) Ordinarily the municipal councils are to take the initiative in the matter."

Continuance of the unrest among the students of the Annamalai University.

* 1048 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he visited the Annamalai University recently to study the causes for the continuance of the reported unrest among the University students;

(*b*) if so, what the causes for the trouble are; and

(*c*) how the Government propose to deal with the unhappy situation in the said University?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the statement issued by me on the 1st of March 1939; we have no further information to furnish on the subject."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, if the trouble has ceased to exist now? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" I have already said in my reply that we have no further information to supply."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to call for a report and for further information? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" Under the Annamalai University Act, no power is given to me to call for a report."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Q. 1049. Mir Akram Ali Sahib."

Mr. G. Krishna Rao rose.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think we may pass over to the next question; nothing more is necessary to elucidate the last answer."

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Objections to the construction of Police lines opposite the Museum gardens in Rajahmundry.

* 1049 *Q*.—MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received copy of the proceedings of the public meeting of the citizens of Rajahmundry held on 4th March 1939 and also the memorials of the citizens requesting the Government to stop immediately the construction of Police lines in the open space opposite the Museum gardens in Rajahmundry; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken so far or propose to take thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The papers have been transferred to the District Magistrate, East Godavari, for disposal."

MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Are the Government aware that in the congested town of Rajahmundry this site is the only open space available for the public? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" But it is a Government site all the same and they cannot afford to buy new lands at great prices for putting up their buildings. But every consideration will be given to the point of view presented by the hon. Member, namely, public health."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether there is a site eleven acres in extent purchased by the Government which is lying idle and which can be used for this purpose? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Even that will be taken into consideration and if the other site is not necessary for public health, it may even be sold off."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, if the Collector can dispose of a matter of this type; whether he can stop the work if necessary and whether this is not a matter for the Government to dispose of after the receipt of a report from the Collector? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The Collector will dispose of the petitions. Surely, he cannot dispose of Government property without Government's consent. But the matter will be disposed of, namely, whether it is necessary for public health, whether any other place is available and so on."

MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, if the Government will call for a plan of this site? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The Government will try to do so. But I may mention to the hon. Members that Government cannot administer every town and

every village in this country and it is impossible to take over everything directly, and that is the reason why the matter has been sent to the Collector but no hon. Member need imagine that anything will be allowed to be done which is wrong."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government will direct that the construction be not proceeded with before the matter is disposed of? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I cannot give a promise but surely that will be done if it is reasonable."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the construction has already begun? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" If the hon. Member who puts the question says so, I shall accept it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the supplementary question, may I ask how the Hon. the Premier is going to satisfy the health requirements of the place if buildings are going to be put up in the only open space that seems to be available? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It depends on the size of the open space, on the size of the buildings, the nature of the buildings and the height."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, if the plans have not been passed and if the building arrangements have not been made? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I cannot answer that question now."

Measures to relieve agricultural distress in Tiruvallur and Ponneri taluks.

* 1050 *Q.*—SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Collector of Chingleput has, in consultation with the President, District Board, Chingleput, submitted to the Government a list of special works to be carried out in the said district owing to the agricultural distress prevailing therein; and

(*b*) what measures the Government propose to take to alleviate the distress among the agriculturists in the taluks of Tiruvallur and Ponneri?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) A list of such works has been sent by the President, District Board, direct to the Government. Steps are being taken, in consultation

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with the District Board, to provide employment to labourers in the affected areas of the district by expanding the usual works programme.

" Remission of land revenue will be granted wherever necessary in accordance with the rules."

SRI D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR:—" Will remissions be given to dry and manavari lands of these two taluks seeing that the people there belong to the comparatively poor classes? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" That matter will be considered; if necessary, it will be extended."

Reply, if any, received from the Secretary of State or from the Governor-General regarding the formation of a separate Andhra Province.

* 1028 *Q.*—SRI GRANDHI VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any reply was received from the Secretary of State in Council or the Governor-General of India, on the resolution passed by the Madras Legislative Assembly, regarding the formation of a separate province of the Andhra districts; and

(*b*) if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) & (*b*) On 11th May 1938 intimation was received from the Government of India that they had communicated the resolution and the recommendation of this Government to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State sent an adverse reply. I have again strongly pressed the case to which again an adverse answer has come. The question being thus under correspondence, it is inadvisable to place the papers on the table at this stage."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" Have the Government any idea of pursuing the matter further in view of the larger and more important issues that are involved like the Federation in the near future? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The first part of the question is whether the Government intend to pursue the matter further. The answer is ' Yes.' But the second part of the question is an argument."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" In view of the cold attitude of the Secretary of State, will not the Congress Ministry see that the revenues of each linguistic area are spent as far as possible on each linguistic area? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" That does not arise out of this question."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" May I request the Government to exert greater pressure on the Secretary of State and the Government of India to meet the demands of the Andhras? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I have used very great pressure but if greater pressure is suggested, it has to be manufactured and cannot be simply suggested and left at that."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, if the same amount of pressure will also be used for a separate Province for the Kanarese speaking people? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" No representation with respect to the matter referred to by the hon. Member has gone from this Government."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that the resolution passed by this House recommended the formation of Provinces on linguistic basis, may I know, Sir, whether the formation of a separate Province for the Malayalam-speaking and Kanarese-speaking people of this Presidency does not also arise? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The general principle has no doubt been accepted and communicated; but in translating the general principle into action, the circumstances of each particular proposal makes that proposal stronger or weaker and the case for the Andhra Province is stronger."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Am I to understand that no recommendation has been made regarding the formation of a separate Kanarese Province? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" There is no necessity for such an inference. I said in specific terms that we have not made any specific request on that matter."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any time-limit to remind the Secretary of State or the Government of India regarding any particular subject of this type? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" There is no time-limit but merely considerations of courtesy and propriety."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know how then could we make them understand the importance of any particular subject of this type if they keep silent for any length of time? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The supplementary question does not arise out of the question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will not the unhelpful attitude of the Secretary of State on a matter of vital importance such as the constitution of the Andhra Province necessitate extremist action on the part of the Government? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I would like definite proposals from the leader of the Muslim League." (Laughter.)

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Does the Government propose to make any further representation in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Oh, yes, Sir; and that is why I said that we cannot place the correspondence on the table of the House."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will any useful purpose be served by making repeated representations to the Secretary of State for India when we have received replies from him to the contrary? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Any one who knows the technique of agitation will admit that there is much use in such a procedure."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Will the language difficulty that we are experiencing from day-to-day in this House be brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for India in support of the formation of a separate Province? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" If I said it so bluntly, he may imagine that we are enacting this drama merely for that purpose." (Laughter.)

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the members are playing no drama but are only speaking in their own mother-tongue in order to make themselves understood? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I do not think that that question arises. It is not a fact that people are always speaking in their own mother-tongue."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Let me say, Sir, to remove a misconception in the minds of hon. Members who referred to the development of pressure, that it is a very delicate and sensitive process and it cannot be developed by bluntness and by hurry."

Powers of the Provincial Government in regard to the appointment of Judges of the High Court.

* 1029 *Q.*—Sri S. Nagappa on behalf of SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Provincial Government are consulted in the matter of the appointment of the Hon. the Judges of the Madras High Court;

(*b*) whether the Provincial Government are at liberty to suggest names for appointment as Judges of the High Court; and

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(c) if the answer to clause (b) is in the affirmative, the nature and the extent of the part which the Provincial Government have in the appointment of the High Court Judges?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (a), (b) & (c) The Provincial Government are not consulted now in the matters referred to and clause (c) of the question does not therefore arise."

Appointments made recently to the Madras High Court Bench.

* 1030 *Q.*—SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the two permanent appointments and the temporary appointments made to the Madras High Court Bench recently were made after consultation with and on the recommendation of the Ministry?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The Government have not been consulted in regard to any of these appointments."

Reducing the number of Judges of the Madras High Court and of District Judges in the Presidency.

* 1031 *Q.*—Sri S. Nagappa on behalf of SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to reduce the number of Judges of the Madras High Court; and

(b) whether there is any proposal before the Government to reduce the number of the District Judges in this Presidency?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (a) & (b) There is no proposal at present before the Government such as mentioned."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that we have enacted 3-4
the Debt Relief and the Prohibition Acts, may I know, whether p.m
the Government see the necessity to reduce the number of Judges, if not abolish the whole High Court? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I will try to do so. It will take some time."

MR. SPEAKER:—" For abolition? "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know what exactly the Hon. Premier means by saying that he will try? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It will take some time for abolition."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does he propose to abolish the High Court at any time?"

THE HON SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is just possible that we may abolish the system of second appeals. It is just possible that the work may be reduced if we understand the worthlessness of litigation and it is quite possible that the High Court will be dispensed with, or at least, in a large measure dispensed with." (Hon. Sri T. Prakasam: 'Hear, hear.')

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, at least, is there any possibility of reducing the number of Judges by one or two?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is a very technical and expert question. It will be gone into, but not in such hurry."

Land revenue remissions.

*1050-A Q.—SRI E. M. SANKARAN NAMBUDRIPAD: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the amount of land revenue remissions recently announced by the Government with reference to each district was fixed according to the reports of the District Collectors; and

(b) if so, whether the report of the Collector of Malabar will be placed on the table?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"(a) The hon. Member in his question asks if the amount of remissions was fixed according to the reports of the District Collectors. The use of the word 'fixed' suggests that there is possibly a misunderstanding prevalent regarding this matter. The total amount of seasonal remissions for a district is not fixed by Government or by any authority. The question of remission is decided with reference to the facts of each individual case by the local officers authorized to do so in accordance with the rules contained in the Board's Standing Orders which apply to all districts alike. The sum of the individual remissions thus sanctioned is the total remission of the district. The statement of district remissions read out during the Budget debate contained the estimates furnished to the Board of Revenue for Budget purposes by the District Collectors in December of last year and showed merely the amount of remission which on the information available at that time appeared likely to be granted during fasli 1348

"(b) In view of the answer to (a) the question does not arise."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND XVI—MEDICAL.

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I move—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 91,22,800 *under Demand XVI—Medical.*' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" We are now on Demand XVI. We have got 21 Demands more and the remaining number of days, I think, is only four, and as such we must proceed at a quicker pace than before. So I limit the time for this Demand to two hours and hon. Members will finish their speeches within ten minutes; and in order to help them, I shall ring the first bell at seven minutes after the commencement of their speeches, so that they might finish the remaining matter in two or three minutes. If members who speak in English are pleased to give the substance of their speeches in one of the recognized languages which they know for the benefit of others who do not know English, they may avail themselves of these three minutes immediately after the first bell and may commence giving the summary. Those who speak in their mother-tongue may give the substance of their speeches if they can in English, within these three minutes for the benefit of members who do not know the language in which the main speech is made."

* MR. H. S. TOWN:—" I move—

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 91,22,800 *for Medical be reduced by Rs.* 100 ' for the purpose of discussing policy.

" Sir, it is nearly a quarter of a century since I found myself in the position very similar to that in which the Hon. Minister for Health finds himself to-day. Then I came under very serious criticism for my handling of a large hospital and I well remember how ill-informed I thought people who criticized me were; and I have no doubt that very soon the Hon. Minister will be trying to find out if I am ill-informed. Further, Sir, I would state at once that I criticize only to strengthen his hand in his important work. I am not unaware of the difficulties of medical administration. I am fully conscious of the fact that it is impossible to administer any hospital or medical organization without coming under some sort of criticism from somebody. One of the hospitals of which I had the administrative charge—I have had the administrative charge of many hospitals—was one of over 600 beds. When I took charge of that hospital I had the equipment normally laid down by the Royal Army Medical Corps for handling 100 patients. So you can see that I was under

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some difficulties. But I went to the fountain-head daily and complained and I did not let him rest until he provided me with the equipment necessary for dealing with many different types of cases, both surgical and medical.

"And, Sir, that leads me to point out that the people of Madras, whose hospital the General Hospital is and whose hospitals the other hospitals are, are not sufficiently vocal in their demand for an improvement in their hospitals. I have seen hospitals springing into being in a few hours. I have been segregated for days at a time nursing cases of cholera and typhus. So I know what is necessary in a hospital. I had training in one of London's premier hospitals and I know to what high standard a conscientious and sympathetic administration can raise the work of the finest of all professions, that which aims at the relief of pain and suffering to which this frail human body of ours is so prone. Therefore, Sir, I may claim some personal knowledge of medical work although I am not a doctor.

"We have seen quite recently the report of the Standing Health Committee of the Madras Corporation on the Infectious Diseases Hospitals. As I read it, my thoughts travelled back to the squalid evil-smelling hospital I took over in Syria, where the patients were suffering as much from maladministration as they were from wounds and disease. It was my first duty there to clean the whole thing and put it right. Now, Sir, our Infectious Diseases Hospitals are not bad to such an extent but they are still very bad. I may be informed later on that the Infectious Diseases Hospitals are the special care of the Madras Corporation. I agree. But, Sir, under the Madras City Municipality Act, the Government have the right to intervene; and I ask in all seriousness, why have the Government failed to do it? Why have such state of affairs been allowed to continue in our midst? And one more question. Will the Hon. Minister please make it his special care during this coming year to improve all these hospitals? I would like to have direct replies to these questions.

"Let us consider for one moment the Madras General Hospital. Madras is a city of over 600,000 people and it ranks as one of the larger cities of the world. Large cities and capitals in other countries are proud of their hospitals. Let us see to-day what Madras has to be proud of. When Government published their Order reducing the pay of nurses and withdrawing various allowances, one of the reasons given was the desire to increase the number of nurses employed. Has this been done? My information is that it has not been done. My information is that there are no extra nurses in the General Hospital and even the number that was previously sanctioned has not yet been engaged. Consequently the wards that are ready for patients are not being used owing to the paucity of nurses and shortage of equipment. Although the number of beds in the hospital is officially 778, the

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actual number of in-patients is nearly 1,000 and there is no increase in the staff or in the equipment of the hospital to deal with the excess of patients.

"Sir, I know something of the nightmare of running a hospital with insufficient staff and insufficient equipment. I can assure you that it is the patients that suffer—the patient who is the one reason for the existence of the hospital. It is very clear to those who know the inside of the General Hospital that it is grossly understaffed not only in nurses but also in menial staff, and I am of opinion that the Hon. Minister should make it his immediate duty to see that the present state of affairs does not continue one day longer than it need. It is useless to try to run a hospital efficiently unless you will give the doctors and the nurses sufficient menial staff. Sir, it is a great pity that the people of Madras do not know what a hospital should be. If the populace of Madras had seen the working of a hospital in England they would turn to shame from our hospitals.

"The Hon. Minister is a gentleman of considerable medical attainments. He has been in first-class hospitals, and he knows what they should be. I appeal to him to agitate for more help for hospitals. It may be that the Revenue Minister is stopping him. Then I say to him, 'Do not let him rest.' 4 p.m

"Emphasis is being laid on the position of the General Hospital in Madras because it is one of the most important hospitals. But, Sir, I am informed on good authority that the upcountry hospitals are worse and there are some where there are no nurses, and nursing is being done by ward-boys and menials.

"I have a lot to say, Sir, but I am afraid I have got to cut my speech short. The Hon. Minister has suggested the honorary medical system. The honorary medical system in the West is that the highly qualified specialist gives his time freely to the hospital and results in the young doctor working under the advice of a man of experience. The honorary system that we have here appears to be one whereby the young man who has just passed his examination shall experiment upon his patients for five years to gain knowledge. I quote the remarks of the Hon. the Minister taken from the *Hindu*. 'The fundamental consequence of this honorary system is that State hospitals become, not the property of the public, but the property of the profession.' Then again—'If I have given this chance to you it is on the fundamental basis that the ailing people are the property of the medical men.' Sir, I do not like to feel that a sick man in a hospital is the property of the doctor. He is not the property of the doctor. The hospitals are not the property of the doctors, but they are the property of the State and the

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people. It is proposed to restrict the honorary work to five years. You may have a young man just after passing his examination who cannot afford to do honorary work, but he will not be given a chance to earn his living whilst gaining experience in hospital because a more happily paid man, less equipped, may be able to afford to do the work here and gain his knowledge. Sir, I think the honorary system should be given up as it is not good for the good of the patients or the sick and the suffering of our Presidency."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, this Demand concerning the health of our country is one of the most important Demands discussed on the floor of the House, and it requires very careful consideration. In view of the fact that the time at our disposal is very limited . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Two full hours for this Demand!"

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" But, ten minutes only for each member, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Seven minutes, preferably."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" We can cover very little ground within that period. But I bow to your ruling."

MR. SPEAKER:—" As a matter of fact, Congress members who are in such large numbers complain that the whole time of the House is being taken up by the Opposition and they are not given any opportunity. Even with this limitation I think Congress members will not have much opportunity."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" On a point of information, Sir, I want to know whether the Congress members want to oppose the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" They want to reply to the members of the Opposition. Though the Ministers do it, the Ministers cannot give sharp replies to criticisms that are being made because they may feel delicate."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" I bow to your ruling and proceed straightaway. I do not wish to lose any more time.

" I would like to say that the Hon. Minister deserves congratulation for the very splendid record of work during the course of the year. There has been a season of unceasing activity for the Minister which has culminated in the introduction of the Public Health Act which has got a very great promise of very far-reaching results in the future.

" My first point with reference to the Budget items is in regard to leprosy relief operations. I find that there is a provision of 3 lakhs of rupees in the Budget. About a lakh and a half is granted towards . . ."

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* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" On a point of information, Sir. The question of leprosy may be taken up under the next Demand. The Demand now before the House is ' Medical.' I would therefore suggest to the hon. Member to take up this particular question under the next item, i.e., ' Public Health.' "

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" I had to mention this point here because the provision is made under ' XVI-Medical.' Anyway I shall give it up and confine my remarks to other heads.

" I shall pass on to tuberculosis, another dangerous disease which has proved a scourge, and is spreading rather alarmingly in our Province. By the lowest computation, Sir, it is put down as two million patients in a year. Considering the magnitude of the disease we find that the relief accorded to combat the disease is very limited. As a matter of fact, we have only one single institution in the City of Madras. That is the Tuberculosis Institute at Egmore and the hospital at Royapettah. That does not serve all the purpose and there has been a long-standing complaint that the hospital at Royapettah, situated as it is in the heart of the City in the midst of dwelling quarters, ought to be removed. I find, Sir, from the report of the Medical department that arrangements are being made to shift the hospital to Tambaram. It is a very welcome sign that the Tambaram institute has been taken over by the Government under their direct control and it is hoped that arrangements will be made to shift the hospital at Royapettah to Tambaram so that their attention may be concentrated at one particular place. In addition to the Tambaram sanatorium I find there are some sanatoria, for instance, one at Madanapalle and another at Perundurai, to which certain grants are being made by the Government. There is no indication in the detailed Budget as to the amount of grants made to these institutions. I believe it is included under the main provision of about Rs. 2 lakhs shown under Demand XVI, i.e., Medical. Anyway my present purpose in mentioning this is to advocate a liberal treatment in respect of a sanatorium which is doing very good work in the Telugu area. I refer to the sanatorium called the Visrantipuram Tuberculosis Sanatorium near Rajahmundry. A special appeal has been made recently by the organizers and the board of directors of that sanatorium. It seems to be doing really good work. There are 55 beds provided there for the treatment of patients. But, the number of patients that seek shelter in the sanatorium far exceeds that number. I believe that the present number on the roll is 76. Patients are accommodated in the open and in sheds. I believe that the sanatorium stands in very urgent need of an X-ray apparatus and two additional buildings and some other necessaries and the directors have made an appeal to Government. I am glad to observe that the Hon

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the Minister for Public Health has inspected the sanatorium and was very well impressed with it. He has stated in his inspection remarks on 8th October 1937 that the sanatorium does wonderful humanitarian work and deserves all support. My appeal is that in distributing the money available under the King George V Anti-Tuberculosis Fund some consideration might be shown to this very deserving institution and a liberal grant might be given so that additional beds and buildings may be provided.

" Another point which I wish to mention in this connexion is the deplorable condition of the Isolation Hospitals in Madras. My hon. Friend, Mr. Town, has remarked on that point more forcibly than I ever could; I do not, therefore, wish to touch upon it.

" One other matter I would like to say and that is about the honorary system of medical service. As observed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Town, the honorary system does not seem to have proved a success. For, I find from the Budget estimate that no savings are shown under this head. Last year about Rs. 12,000 was shown as savings as a result of the introduction of the honorary system. But no such savings are included in the present Budget. On the whole the Budget figure is slightly less than what it was last year and the current year. Apparently no credit has been taken for any saving under the head of Services. On the other hand there seems to be a complaint in the City and elsewhere that instead of throwing open vacant posts for honorary men, appointments are made on fixed salaries. I understand that out of 22 vacancies that occurred during the year in the Assistant Surgeon's cadre, 17 vacancies have been filled up with Sub-Assistant Surgeons who have qualified themselves with L.M. & S. or M.B. & B.S. degrees. Sir, an impression is gaining ground that things have not been done fairly. I would request the Hon. Minister to enlighten the House as regards the reasons that prompted him to fill up these vacancies with stipendiary officials instead of honorary men. If really the honorary system is a success, the Government need not have had any difficulty in filling up these vacancies. The fact that these vacancies have been filled up by paid men shows that there is something wrong somewhere.

" An additional matter that requires attention is that 13 out of the 17 posts went to Sub-Assistant Surgeons. This has been done in spite of the fact that last year when applications were invited and examination held, the Madras Service Commission recommended twelve men for appointment as Civil Assistant Surgeons. But these twelve men were not appointed on the ground that there were no vacancies. When vacancies actually occurred, it was up to Government to give a fair chance to the men already selected by the Madras Service Commission. It is not known on what grounds their claims were disregarded. I am sure that the Hon. Minister had sufficient reasons for not

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appointing those who had already been selected by the Madras Service Commission. In view of the fact that an impression is gaining ground that their claims have not been considered, I request the Hon. Minister to kindly look into the matter and remove any misapprehension that might have been caused by these appointments.''

* Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—'' *Sir, in speaking on this cut* 4-15
motion I only want to place before the House a few points. p.m.

'' It is a well-known fact that the accommodation in the Mental Hospital is very inadequate. It is a pity, Sir, that the unfortunate people who have to be sent to these hospitals are denied accommodation and amenities of life even there. This matter has been placed before the House already. I only mention it here to give my support also to the same.

'' On the question of sending back to the jails criminals who were thought to be insane, I asked a question and the Hon. Minister has answered that my information is not based on fact. Sir, it is based on rumour, but the rumour itself is there because of the lack of accommodation in the Mental Hospital. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister to remove the cause of this rumour and see that better accommodation is provided.

'' With regard to the stopping of private practice for Government Medical Officers and requiring them to confine themselves to consultative practice only, I agree that it is very good especially to young men who have to make a living by private practice after passing high examinations in Medicine and Surgery. But this system may not work well in other places than big cities like Madras. In smaller areas it may not be possible for people to put much faith in the ability of the private practitioners and so, what happens is that the private practitioners simply act as intermediaries and the patients are in fact treated by the Government medical practitioners. I do not think therefore that this system will work satisfactorily in the mufassal. I do not know how the Government are going to stop this unintended development.

'' Reference has already been made to the appointment of honorary medical men in our hospitals. But I want to ask this: On what basis are the Government selecting the men? What is their experience of these people, what is their skill and what is their standing in the medical world? We ought to know these things. In matters of surgery it is a very serious matter for the Government to choose the men. These people are expected to gain experience in the hospital for five years and then make room for a different set of people for another five years. Sir, surgery requires cunning and deftness of hand. Can it be said that these men who are expected to gain experience in surgery within five years will have completely got over their

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nervousness at least within that period? Now, whether they would have gained experience or not, you would be sending them away at the end of five years and bringing in a fresh batch of men for another five years. Will it not be a hardship to the people to be put on the table to be experimented on by these young men coming in batches every five years? I am afraid, Sir, one result of this arrangement will be that people will lose their confidence in the doctors and will not also get good doctors to attend to their needs. Specialists and people with experience will no more be available to the ailing public. As a matter of fact, there is a feeling that these hospitals might, under this scheme, become a training ground as it were to inexperienced young men of mediocre ability. The Government must see to it that this feeling is not allowed to grow. It may be a good thing to give thousands of our young men the experience that they stand in need of; but in matters which mean literally life and death to the people, we have to move with caution and circumspection. That is why, Sir, I have made these few remarks from this side of the House.

"As regards the question of L.M.Ps., though the Hon. Minister has stated that he has wiped out all the distinction between medical graduates and L.M.Ps. there is still a lot of discontent. Though the course has been extended to five years and though new subjects have been added to the curriculum so as to put the L.M.Ps. on a par with the M.B.B.S. people in the matter of appointments to both Medical and Public Health services, a distinction is made between these two sets of people. Even in the making of honorary appointments and fixing their renumeration, a distinction is made. I suggest, Sir, no such distinction should be made.

"Then with regard to the subsidies made to rural dispensaries, there has been a good deal of furore about the cutting down of the grants. Seeing that these rural areas are not having any medical aid worth mentioning, I request the Government to supplement the grant and not to cut it down.

"I would like to say, Sir, a word about the holding of medical examinations in India. We should hold these examinations here and show the authorities what better results we can produce and what sort of good teaching we provide. I was somewhat surprised to see, in this connexion, the remarks made by Dr. R. S. Roy. He said that the Indian students in geueral do not come up to the standard of English students and this he attributed to the inadequate arrangements for proper teaching. This is a remark made by a very respousible authority on medicine. I ask the Hon. Minister why such a remark should be made by a responsible authority like that and why after spending a lot of money on this department the teaching should still be considered inadequate."

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* DR. MUHAMMAD ABDUS SALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Hon. the Minister for Public Health for the scheme of the Co-operative Medical Relief which he suggested in his address delivered at the seveuth Audhra Medical Conference at Ellore. I wish to point out, Sir, that instead of trying the scheme in three Andhra and three Tamil districts as told by the Hon. Minister, it would be, better if he tries it in all the districts. I am confident that this will help both; that is, the masses who require medical relief and the medical men as well. I suggest that it should be tried in all districts as I think that the ' Common good fund ' exists in every district. I hope the Hon. Minister will give an early fair trial to the Co-operative Medical Relief Scheme in all districts and thus give a chance to the medical men to be of service to the poor sufferers who are in God-forsaken places and suffer a great deal for want of proper medical aid.

" Sir, the other day, the Hon. Minister, while addressing the meeting of the Provincial Branch of the Empire Leprosy Relief Association, appealed to the public to contribute liberally towards the Leprosy Relief Fund either by way of cash or in kind as the complete eradication of leprosy—the once frightful disease—is not impossible. As this is one of the most important subjects relating to public health, in my humble opinion, I think the hon. Members of this House can also help to a great extent if they follow and carry out, in their respective constituencies, the suggestions made by the Hon. Minister.

" Now, Sir, I wish to place before the Hon. the Minister for Public Health a glaring injustice which is contemplated to be done to the poor and destitute female population of Nellore. Recently the Nellore Municipality passed a resolution to abolish the Victoria Jubilee Hospital for Women and Children—the only institution for the medical relief of the poor which has been in existence ever since the Golden Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. I am sure the Hon. Minister will concur with me when I say that the said hospital is located in an ideal place on the outskirts of the town. The municipal authorities, I am told, subject to correction, requested the Hon. Minister when he came to Nellore recently and visited the hospital, to have it run by the Government and he was willing to do so on condition that the salary of the lady doctor is borne by the municipality and the building and equipment is handed over to the Government. But in a recent Government Order the Government dropped the idea of taking over the hospital altogether. Last year, Sir, the Municipal authorities wanted to shift the hospital to the Municipal Office Buildings on the other side of the town. But as mahazars were sent to the Government stating that the suffering female population will be put to much inconvenience and the gosha facilities too will be denied to the Muslims, the Government vetoed the resolution.

" Sir, it is rather curious to hear that attempts are being made for the abolition of hospitals while at the same time the Hon. Minister is trying for the uplift of the public health by introducing very many schemes of expansion which non-medical men could never think of.

" I am sure, Sir, my hon. colleague, Sri V. Venkatasubbayya of Nellore will bear with me that the said hospital is a great boon to the poor women of our place. No doubt there are two mission institutions—the American Baptist Mission Hospital which admits paying patients and the St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Hospital in which maternity cases are admitted, but this old historical institution for the general public is an undoubted necessity.

" The municipality curiously enough thinks it is wasting Rs. 9,000 per annum but the expenditure on a women's hospital is not at all a waste. What is the use of collecting taxes, etc., if no adequate medical relief is given? I was surprised to hear, Sir, some municipal councillors saying that nearly 60 per cent of the cases treated are from villages and it seems the district board refused to contribute towards the maintenance of the hospital. The Government may direct the district board to share the cost to a reasonable extent.

" It is curious to note, Sir, that the municipality which wants to provide the drainage scheme—a very costly affair—should contemplate to do away with the only source of medical relief for the poor women irrespective of caste and creed. By this I do not mean to say that I am against the drainage scheme as it is also one of the essential requirements for the upkeep of public health. Lastly, Sir, I wish to point out that to the Muslim gosha ladies also this is the only institution for medical relief.

" Such being the case, Sir, I request the Hon. Minister who has the cause of the poorer classes so near his heart not to give his assent to the proposal of the municipality to abolish the hospital but find out some way to keep up the hospital.

" It has been said, Sir, that indigenous system of medicine should be encouraged. But the Nellore District Board is not paying any attention towards this system of medicine. Sir, one of the three valuable Unani dispensaries maintained by the district board has been abolished. Considering the Muslim population in so many places in the district, I request the Hon. Minister to reopen the Unani hospital and encourage this system.

" Hitherto, Sir, compounders were trained in the headquarters hospitals in the districts. Now they have to come to Madras for their training. It is a great hardship for poorer class people to send their boys to the City for training. Naturally it will result in the City boys getting trained and becoming compounders. So, I request the Hon. Minister to allow the candidates to be trained at headquarters hospitals as before.

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" As regards vaccination, Sir, cases of sepsis have come to my notice after vaccination. This is the outcome of the use of unsterilized instruments. So, I request the Hon. Minister to enforce proper sterilization of instruments as cases vaccinated with unsterilized instruments may end in grave results.

" The headquarters hospital at Nellore is not equipped with the X-ray apparatus, which is most essential for the correct diagnosis of diseases and fractures. Very many cases were to be sent to the City for want of the apparatus. I am confident that the Hon. Minister will concur with me that the X-ray apparatus is essential in every headquarters hospital.

" Because our Hon. Minister is a doctor of great repute and vast experience we, the medical members of the Legislature, make bold to hope that in his regime our hospitals will be equipped in a first-rate manner, so that our Presidency will make a name for its good and model hospitals equalling the hospitals of Europe and America."

* Dr. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Sir, while speaking on this Demand, I would like to make a few remarks about the honorary medical system. When I spoke last year on this Demand, I almost described the system of honorary medical service under Government as an unworkable system. Sir, my experience in the past year has made me change my views. The hon. Member, Mr. Town, with his vast experience in the Western countries has opposed this system. No doubt in England and other countries where medical men, highly qualified medical men, are in abundance, they can pitch upon experts for every section of the medical department to work honorarily. But, Sir, India, a country which has just been developing its medicine and surgery cannot afford to have such specialists in their different departments. Therefore the action of the present Government in appointing some capable men and some specialists to these posts is really welcome. During the past year or years some honorary surgeons and physicians that occupied the posts of Civil Surgeons in big hospitals very ably discharged their duties; but owing to recent changes in the honorary medical staff in the General Hospital and other city hospitals, some honorary men had to be replaced by junior men. For this there is a certain amount of murmur here and there. I hope these junior men who have got some attainments and qualifications in the line will prove themselves useful to the general public. 4-30 p.m.

" Sir, while talking about this honorary medical system, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government certain disabilities under which the honorary medical officers in the mufassal are labouring. No doubt here and there in some of the district headquarters hospitals there are some honorary medical officers who are given ample work to do. But I know as a matter of fact that in the headquarter hospital at Kurnool there is an M.B. who has

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been appointed as honorary physician. He has no work. He is not allowed to go into the special ward or operation theatre. All the work is done by the District Medical Officer or the Assistant District Medical Officer. In these circumstances I am at a loss to understand how these honorary men can improve their knowledge. These young men go there really for improving their knowledge so that when they come out after five or six years, they may be useful to themselves and to the general public. Therefore, I suggest that these honorary men should be given more facilities to work both in the surgical and medical wards. These honorary medical men are not even given the liberty of granting medical certificates to those patients who happen to be under their wards. This privilege is taken by the Senior Medical Officer or the District Medical Officer in the hospital.

"I shall now take up another point, viz., the facilities to be given to honorary medical men in the mufassal. Some of these honorary medical men who are running their own clinics happen to work for two hours in a day in the hospital and work for the rest of the day in their own clinics. Some of these clinics, dispensaries and nursing homes maintained by these honorary men are very poorly equipped. Therefore, any emergent surgical case that comes up to their clinics may be allowed to be taken up to the local headquarter hospital and attended to by the same honorary medical officer with the aid of the staff at the hospital. I am asking the Hon. the Minister for Public Health permission to give facility to these young men who are really handicapped and are not able to maintain their clinics on up-to-date lines. I therefore request that some provision may be made for allowing these young honorary medical officers to attend to their own cases in the headquarter hospital.

"Some time back there was a statement made on the floor of this House that private practice to Government officers in the City would be banned so that private practitioners in the City might get a certain amount of practice. I would like to know from the Hon. the Minister for Public Health how far this scheme has been put into practice both in the City and in the mufassal.

"Coming to another question, viz., of abolishing out-patient departments in some big hospitals, it is a thing which has to be carefully considered. I am giving an instance which will show that the maintenance of out-patient department in certain headquarter hospitals is quite uneconomic. For instance, in places like Kurnool District Headquarter Hospital, the out-patient ward of the hospital is not doing good work; because, as the Hon. Minister knows, the distance between the town and the place where the headquarter hospital is situated is about two miles and patients are not able to go and get the aid rendered in the hospital. In such cases to maintain out-patient wards is a waste and in such places

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the out-patient wards may be abolished and savings effected. But there is a practical difficulty experienced in the mufassal local fund dispensaries and taluk headquarter hospitals. There are many cases where the rural folk are attacked with such infectious diseases as tetanus, diptheria and so forth. In such cases, if the taluk headquarter hospital or the local fund dispensary is supplied with antitetanic serum, the doctors in charge of those hospitals will be able to attend to such cases and alleviate lot of suffering in the rural parts. If these hospitals are not supplied free the anti-tetanic serum, how will it be possible for these poor doctors to attend to such cases? It will also be not possible for these poor patients to go up to a distance of 40 miles in order to get admission in the nearest headquarter hospital. Therefore I request that the L.M.Ps. or other medical officers who are in charge of these taluk headquarter hospitals or the local fund dispensaries may be supplied with vaccine free for treatment of such infectious cases. Therefore the L.M.Ps. and other people who are in charge of hospitals should be supplied with anti-serum from Guindy institute.

"Coming to the subject of registration of Ayurvedic medical practitioners, the Hon. Minister made a statement that 8,000 or 9,000 men had been registered. I want to know how this registration is going to help these practitioners or the public. I know that as a matter of fact some of these men who do not know the A, B, C of medicine or have had any sort of general education, have been registered by the recommendations of the local taluk Magistrate or the Commissioner of municipalities who have not the requisite knowledge to recommend them to the Government for registration. I am afraid that these so-called medical men will not be of much use to the public. I wish that there should be more supervision and stronger control over these men to make them efficient in discharging their duties.

"Then, with regard to subsidies to rural medical practitioners, I heartily support their claim for a greater sum, viz., from Rs. 15 to Rs. 30. I request the Hon. Minister to consider their case sympathetically and enhance their remuneration to Rs. 30."

* MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would also join my hon. Friend Mr. Appadurai Pillai in making an appeal to the Hon. the Minister for Public Health for giving some kind of help to the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Visranthipuram which is four miles from Rajahmundry. The Hon. Minister has himself seen that place and found that there is a great want of accommodation for patients and the number of beds is very small. I strongly appeal to the Hon. Minister to make some grant to that hospital.

"I find that the present Government are very lukewarm about giving encouragement to the indigenous system of medicine. We expected there would be more enthusiasm shown about giving encouragement to indigenous medicines. The attitude seems to be

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lukewarm. Of course as it is at present constituted, the allopathic system is far superior. Unless some kind of encouragement is given to the indigenous system, I am afraid it will die.

" My third point is about the King George Hospital at Vizagapatam and the Vizagapatam Medical College. The Vizagapatam Medical College is affiliated to the Andhra University. But unfortunately the degrees that are conferred by this College are not recognized by the Indian Medical Council. Even in 1934 a Commission was appointed and they went round the place and found that the equipment and buildings were not up-to-date and were not sufficient, and therefore they refused to recognize the degrees conferred by this College. Again, in 1937 another Commission was appointed by the Medical Council and they also refused to recognize the medical degrees conferred by that College. In this connexion I may point out that the King George Hospital cannot be treated simply as a headquarter hospital. It is an important hospital in the Andhra country. I know that people in the Andhra Desa from Guntur, Orissa and other distant places go there for treatment and therefore it cannot be classed as a headquarter hospital. It is a first-rate hospital in the whole of Andhra Desa, but for want of funds and proper buildings for installing radiological apparatus, the Local Government could not recognize it as a first-rate hospital. I learnt that Government granted only Rs. 3½ lakhs to extend the out-patient ward. Recently a Government Order was passed—G.O. No. 2425, dated 5th July 1938—which says that ' it is not possible or necessary to take up this time the question of construction of a new maternity ward at Vizagapatam or other buildings.' Sir, consequent upon this Government Order, there is a great misapprehension in the minds of the people that no building construction would be taken up and therefore the question of recognition is going to be shelved for all time. Therefore, I appeal to the Hon. the
1-45 p.m. Minister for Public Health to do his best to see that the degrees of the Vizagapatam Medical College are recognized as early as possible by the Indian Medical Council. And for this purpose, unless further grants are given for the construction of suitable buildings, recognition will not, I am afraid, be given."

* SRIMATHI A. V. KUTTIMALU AMMA :—" Mr. Speaker, I have to represent the sense of disappointment of my constituency that provision has not been made even in this Budget for a building for the Calicut Headquarters Hospital. Sir, the Calicut Headquarters Hospital now is not even fit to be a cattle-shed. About 200 patients are huddled together in a place where hardly a hundred could be properly accommodated. The Health Minister has recognized the necessity for a good building for the hospital. We are hoping that at least this year our great need would be satisfied. If only I could transfer all the abuse that our constituency is showering on us to the Hon. Minister he will realize the

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strength of feeling there. I know the difficulty of the Government. But I am afraid the difficulties of the people are greater and no amount of our explaining to them the difficulties of the Government satisfies them. May I therefore appeal to the Government that at least a beginning may be made this year for the building of the Calicut Headquarters Hospital?

"Another matter on which I have to make an appeal to the Hon. the Health Minister is to have a little more sympathy and encourage Indian medicines. I know it is difficult for a renowned and clever surgeon like him to have a kindly eye towards the Ayurvedic system of medicine which allopathic doctors are fond of condemning as unscientific. It is not for me, a lay man or lay woman, if there is such a word, to say whether the Indian system of medicine is scientific or unscientific. But I can say that the average man in the village or in town prefers to go to the Ayurvedic dispensary rather than to the allopathic dispensary. In my town of Calicut, the average daily attendance in the Municipal Ayurvedic dispensaries ranges between 400 and 500, while that of the allopathic dispensaries is not even half of it. That is the case I am told all over the province. It is therefore absolutely necessary to encourage and develop the Indian School of Medicine. I would appeal to the Hon. the Minister for Public Health to give the same status and pay to those who come out of the Indian School of Medicine, the L.I.Ms., as is given to the L.M.Ps. now in service. The Health Minister has done the laudable work of abolishing caste in allopathic system. My appeal to him now is to raise the status of L.I.Ms. also."

* Sri D. V. Ramaswami :—" Mr. Speaker, I want to place a few points for the kind consideration of the Hon. Minister for Public Health. The question of the necessity for the early recognition of the degrees of the Vizagapatam Medical College has been dealt with by my hon. Friend, Mr. Akram Ali, and I do not want to repeat what he has said.

"With regard to the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, and its requirements, in addition to the appeal made to the Hon. Minister last year in the shape of many interpellations and representations I want to seriously appeal to him to consider this hospital not as a mere district headquarter hospital but more as a provincial hospital catering to the needs of the twelve districts. The statistics show that great advantage is taken of the expert treatment available in that hospital by the patients coming from all over the Andhra Province. It may be asked whether the number of in-patients justifies the demand that it should be put on a level with the Madras General Hospital. But the real question to be considered is that the statistics do not mention the large number of patients who go to this hospital for treatment and who are turned out for want of accommodation. There are absolutely convincing statistics to show that nearly 75 per cent of the persons

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who seek admission as patients are not admitted for want of accommodation in that hospital. I therefore earnestly appeal that the requirements of the people of the Andhra districts should be given greater consideration by the Government.

"I will now deal with some of the essential requirements of the hospital. For instance, the hospital requires deep X-ray apparatus and this want has been brought to the notice of the Government several times. The hospital requires a radiological apparatus on the lines of the one we see in the General Hospital, Madras. It would cost not more than Rs. 10,000. It has been found that satisfactory treatment of certain cutaneous diseases which otherwise takes four months, ordinarily will take not more than seven days with the help of this apparatus. Then the hospital requires an electric or steam laundry which is generally made available to big hospitals like this. In this connexion I have to submit that a Member of the Hospital Committee—that is my wife herself—has brought to my notice that for fifteen days at a stretch the patients are made to use the same dirty linen owing to the fact that there is no proper laundry there and there is not sufficient stock of linen or cotton-wool or bandage in the store room. I therefore appeal to the Hon. Minister to see that these defects are rectified.

"I want to mention one point with regard to the Mental Hospital for which I am a Member of the Committee. I beg to state that several recommendations have been made and repeated from meeting to meeting, but it is rather unfortunate that most of the recommendations of that statutory body have not been given effect to. For example with regard to the provision of an additional bore-well apparatus and an electric lift for the hydrotheropic treatment of the mental patients in the hospital, we have time and again made recommendations to the Government, but nothing so far has been done. There is another thing also. Most of the patients belong to the lowest strata, i.e., the peasant class, the Sudra caste, who are accustomed before admission to tend cattle and sheep. We have suggested that provision of some cattle and sheep will greatly help the psychological treatment of these patients by giving them an occupation to which they have been accustomed. Incidentally it will guarantee the supply of pure milk to the inmates. But the former superintendent sold away even the few available cattle. So, I may say, in a word, that generally it gives the impression that the treatment accorded to these poor patients is more like the treatment in a jail than treatment in a mental 'hospital.' The very nature of the rooms provided for them, the very treatment that is generally accorded to them and the manner of approach to their needs, all these are practically on the same lines as in the case of convicts in jail. I therefore pray that there should be a change in the angle of vision with regard to the treatment of the inmates of this hospital.

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"Before concluding, I may also bring to the notice of the Government that several times operations in the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, which had been fixed up for a certain day had to be postponed for want of adequate arrangements for good water. This water problem is a very pressing one. The Hon. Minister sympathetically considered the matter the last time he gave us the honour of his visit. Again I appeal to him to see that the water problem is solved as early as possible. This is a great handicap to the doctors as well as to the citizens, and on account of this difficulty they are not able to perform operations in time. There is also the further fact that most of the patients are not residents of Vizagapatam but come from long distances and they want to go away as early as possible on grounds of economy."

" నేనిప్పుడు ఇంగ్లీషులో చెప్పినదానిని క్లుప్తముగా తెలుగులో చెప్పుచున్నాను; విశాఖపట్నము కింగ్ జార్జి ఆస్పత్రి ఒక రాజధాని ఆస్పత్రిగా పరిగణింపబడవలసి యున్నది. ఏమనగా అది మన 10, 12 తెలుగు జిల్లాలకును కేంద్రస్థానమైయున్నది.

" దానికి ఆంధ్రదేశమున గల అనేక జిల్లాలనుండి రోగ నివారణార్థమై ప్రజలు వచ్చుచుందురు. ఈ అసెంబ్లీలో నేను కొన్ని ప్రశ్నలడుగగా, ఆ హాస్పత్రికి రోగ నివారణకై కొద్దిమందియే వచ్చుచున్నారనిరి. కాని నిజమేమనగా వచ్చినవారిలో ఆస్పత్రిలో ఖాళీలేని కారణముచేత 100 కి 75 మంది తిరిగి వెళ్లిపోయినట్లుగా నాకు తెలియవచ్చుచున్నది. అట్టి సందర్భములో దానియొక్క అవసరమును గ్రహించి అచ్చటికి వచ్చిన రోగులకందరకు అచట సౌకర్యములు కలుగజేసెదరని గవర్నమెంటువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

" ఆ హాస్పత్రిలో ఇప్పుడున్న సౌకర్యములు చాల తక్కువగా యున్నవి. అచట పనిచేయువారు చాలా తక్కువ. కొన్ని పరికరములు డీప్-ఎక్స్-రే మొదలైనవి ఆ హాస్పత్రికి కావలసియున్నవి. అనేకమంది అనేక ప్రాంతములనుండి వచ్చి అచట తగిన సహాయముండదని తెలుసుకొని కొందరును, హాస్పత్రిలోనికి అడ్మిషన్ లేదని కొందరును తిరిగి వెళ్లిపోవుచున్నారు. అచ్చటనున్న సర్జనులు నిజముగా వారికి సరియైన వ్యాధియున్నదో లేదో చెప్పకముగాని వారు హాస్పత్రిలో జాగా లేదని చెప్పినచో రోగులు వెళ్లిపోవలసినదే.

" హాస్పత్రిలోని రోగులకిచ్చు బ్యాండేజి కావలసినంత దూది అవసరమునకు తగినట్లుగా సప్లయి కావడములేదనియు, రోగులకిచ్చు వస్త్రములే 15 రోజుల వరకు తగిన చాకలి సదుపాయము లేకపోవుటచేత ఆ మాసిన వస్త్రములనే వాడుచుండుట కలదనియు, ఆ హాస్పత్రి కమిటీ మెంబర్లవల్ల తెలుసుకొంటిని. నేను మనవి చేసేదేమంటే, లాండ్రీయు, స్టోర్సు సప్లయి హెచ్చుచేసిననేగాని విశాఖపట్నములో కేంద్రస్థానముండియు లాభము లేదు. పిచ్చి హాస్పత్రికి నేను మెంబరుగా నున్నాను. అచ్చటనున్న రోగులకు తగిన సౌకర్యములు చేసినచో వారికి త్వరలోనే మానసిక స్వస్థత చేకూర గలదని మీటింగులద్వారా అనేకసార్లు మనవి చేసినను దొరతనమువారు వినిపించుకొన లేదు. అచ్చటికి వచ్చిన రోగులలో చాలామంది వృత్తిచేత పశులకాపరులు అందు చేత వారిచే గొడ్లు కాచుట, మేకలు కాచుట చేయించినచో వారికి తగినన్ని పాలు సమకూరుటయే గాక వారి జబ్బుకూడా త్వరలోనే నివారణకాగలదు. అచట రోగుల

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కిచ్చు ట్రీటుమెంటు నిజముగా జైలులోని ట్రీటుమెంటువలె యున్నది. హాస్పత్రిలో తగిన నీటి సప్లయికూడా లేదు. పై విషయములన్నిటిని ప్రభుత్వమువారు త్వరలో గ్రహించి తగిన సమపాయములు చేయవలెనని మంత్రిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను.''

m. * SRI S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, in supporting this Demand, I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Public Health certain difficulties that exist in Salem in regard to medical aid. There is in Salem a Women and Children's Hospital which has been running for the last 25 years and more. The accommodation for this Women and Children's Hospital was found to be quite inadequate long ago, and the Government purchased a site more than two decades ago for constructing a new hospital thereon and shifting the present hospital to the new buildings. I am very sorry to say, Sir, that after the purchase of that site, no attempt was made at all by either the previous Governments or the present Congress Government to put up the building and relieve the distress of the women folk of Salem. I would therefore earnestly entreat the Hon. Minister for Public Health to take this matter seriously into consideration and start the work of putting up a new construction upon the site. The present Women and Children's Hospital is situated on the banks of a jungle stream which runs through Salem, which is grandiloquently called the Thirumanimuthar river. Sir, for twelve months in the year, this so-called river is not a river at all, because there is no spring or rain water going along the channel. It is the main sewer of the town, and this hospital which ought to be located in a very healthy locality, is situated on the banks of this dirty stream that goes through the heart of the town of Salem. Sir, on various considerations, I should submit to the consideration of the Hon. Minister for Public Health that the earlier this hospital is shifted to the new premises which he might be pleased to construct upon the site acquired for the purpose, the better it will be for the people of Salem. There are a few beds for maternity cases there, and it is a very sorry spectacle to see that several people do not avail themselves of this hospital, because there are not sufficient beds. Prospective mothers who have once been there know the difficulties of being confined in the premises of that hospital; and therefore, once they happen to go there, they do not want to think of it for their next confinement. Not only that; on account of bad accommodation, or rather the insufficiency of it, they do not remain there for the period that is necessary for them to stay there after their confinement. Either they are asked to go out prematurely or they themselves see that the accommodation is so bad and the attention paid to them is so insufficient that they themselves voluntarily go out before the period during which they would ordinarily be required to be there on ordinary health considerations. Therefore, I would earnestly appeal again to the Hon. Minister for Public Health to take this matter into consideration and provide for the construction of the new Women and Children's Hospital at as early a date as possible.

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"Sir, we want it to be established that it is the good luck of this province that we have got an allopathic doctor of great repute at the head of the Ministry of Public Health. I want it to be recognized by the people that it is the good luck of this province that he is in charge of the medical portfolio. I would earnestly entreat him that he should be pleased to consider that it is not only allopathy that is capable of giving relief to the distress of the ailing public of this province, but also the indigenous systems—be it Ayurveda or Ashtangahridhaya, be it Unani or any other indigenous system of medicine. Sir, it is a well-known fact that these indigenous systems of medicine have been in existence in India long before the advent of the British rule; and it is no good thinking that allopathy is the only system of treatment which is likely to give relief to the ailing public. Further, the cost of the medicines supplied to the public, as may be seen from statistics taken from various dispensaries, per patient, if indigenous medicine is given, is considerably less than half of the cost of medicine supplied per patient in allopathic dispensaries. So, from the point of view of cost as well, it is certainly advantageous to encourage the indigenous systems of medicine. No doubt we have got the School of Indian Medicine which was started through the efforts of the late Raja of Panagal during a previous regime; and it behoves the present Government to give all the support that it is possible for them to give it and to see that the school does more and more useful work to the public of our province. It is very unfortunate to notice that the amount that is usually spent on this School of Indian Medicine has been gradually going down year after year. In the year 1936, I am credibly informed, Rs. 78,830 or thereabouts was spent on this institution. In the year 1937, this amount went down by about Rs. 1,700; i.e., the amount spent was Rs. 77,100. Again, in the year 1938, we find that the amount has gone down by Rs. 3,000, and it is only a sum of Rs. 74,100 now. I ask, in all humility, the present Government, to do what is expected of a popular Government. I would earnestly entreat the Hon. Minister for Public Health to encourage the institution by all means in his power, so that the benefit of this institution may be distributed more widely in our province.

"I understand, Sir, on reliable information, that there were two inspecting medical officers appointed by Government for the purpose of inspecting various institutions in the Province where indigenous medicines are distributed to the patients. One post, I hear, has been abolished. I am speaking all this subject to correction; that is my information, I have not verified it. I understand further that the man who is retained is retained on a temporary basis. I would request the Hon. Minister for Public Health to see that the fears of the public are allayed and the Ministry renders greater support to, and spreads, the indigenous system more than it has been done by the previous Governments.

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" Then, again, Sir, I am reliably informed that there were two persons called Registrars, to do research work in the field of Indian medicine. I understand that both of them have recently been stopped. I do not know why the services of both of them have been dispensed with. Of course there is no finality in the matter of medical knowledge—or for that matter any knowledge whatsoever. I would request the Hon. Minister to bestow some attention on this matter and see that these people are restored to their places and that further research work is proceeded with in respect of Indian medicines.

" One other matter, Sir, and I have done. Of course there is no question of finality, as I said, in any field of knowledge, and much less in the field of medicine. Everyday brings news of new inventions and new discoveries in the field of treatment of diseases. I wrote to the Surgeon-General a few months back asking him to investigate into the case of a lady who to my knowledge, and to the best of my information, has been for the last 35 or 40 years without food or drink of any sort whatsoever. On the question of scientific research, I requested the Surgeon-General to make an investigation into this matter since, as I said, it would add to the knowledge that is available to the public at large. Two months went by and no reply came from the Surgeon-General. I met the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General. (Laughter.) It is not a matter for laughter, Sir; the lady belongs to a neighbouring district to that from which my hon. Friend the Minister for Public Health hails. She is a lady living in a place called Thoondugal, about four miles from Aruppukottai in the Madura district."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Half a minute."

* Sri S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" Thanks, Sir. Two months after I wrote the letter, I sent a reminder and spoke to the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General, and the reply came to me that the matter had been referred to the District Medical Officer, Madura, and that further correspondence might be carried on with him. Then, I wrote to the District Medical Officer, Madura, and he replied. Can you just imagine, Sir, what the District Medical Officer wrote to me? It is impossible to imagine a letter of that kind. He asked me: 'Send that lady for observation in the Madura Hospital.' Can anything be more absurd, I ask in all humility. I would request the Hon. Minister for Public Health to take note of this fact and institute an enquiry into this matter, as I think this case is likely to throw a considerable light upon things which are not dreamt of in our present-day philosophy. There are of course many things in heaven and earth which are not to be found in . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Did the hon. Member bring it to the notice of the Minister before he speaks about it on the floor of this House? "

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* SRI S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"I must say, Sir, that I did not bring it to his notice."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does not the hon. Member think that it would have been much better if such a thing had been done?"

* SRI S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"They are responsible officers of Government no doubt, belonging to the Provincial services."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Instead of making such statements on the floor of this House, damaging to the district officers . . ."

* SRI S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"I have got the correspondence with me, Sir, and I shall hand over the papers to the Hon. Minister, if desired . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It ought to have been done earlier; and probably the Hon. Minister would have taken some action. Instead of . . ."

* SRI S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"Well, Sir, it is a fault in procedure, and a different procedure might no doubt have been adopted . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In such matters where departmental officers are concerned, if hon. Members feel there is matter for complaint, it is better that the Minister's attention is first drawn, before they make such observations on the floor of the House."

* SRI S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"Thank you, Sir."

* SRI K. VENKATAPPAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, in supporting this Demand, I associate myself with all that has been said by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkatappa Chettiyar regarding the improvements necessary and the steps to be taken by the Government for the development of the indigenous systems of medicine in our country, and also as regards the Indian School of Medicine. Regarding the condition of the rural dispensaries in our province, I drew the attention of the Government during the Budget discussions last year to this point; but I find that most of my suggestions remain unheeded. To begin with, I may state that these dispensaries are in the villages and they are intended more to serve the needs of the villagers, most of whom are poor agriculturists and from whom we derive about Rs. 7 crores and odd of our revenues. These dispensaries are so unsatisfactory, Sir, that people are absolutely disappointed. The medicines supplied to these dispensaries 5-15 are so meagre The annual value of medicines supplied to each p.m. dispensary is Rs. 360 for each dispensary and of this a sum of about Rs. 100 is consumed by way of transit and other charges. What remains is only Rs. 260 and the monthly rate works up to Rs. 22 and so the daily value of medicines given to the patients comes to eleven or twelve annas. The dispensaries are expected to serve a daily attendance of fifty patients. To keep a dispensary

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to serve medicines only worth about eleven or twelve annas daily is, I submit, very disappointing and absurd, if I may be permitted to use that word. For the sake of dispensing this medicine we are spending monthly a sum of Rs. 90 made up of Rs. 45 for the doctor, Rs. 25 for the midwife, Rs. 12 for the compounder, Rs. 6 for the boy and Rs. 2 for contingencies. So that virtually we are spending Rs. 90, or three rupees per day on an average for distributing medicines valued only eleven or twelve annas. I think this is rather abnormal and I appeal to the Hon. Minister to take note of these things and do the needful.

"Another point which I wish to refer to is the standardization of medicines. For allopathic dispensaries and hospitals, we know that there is a Central depot here in Madras from which necessary medicines are supplied. But so far as these rural dispensaries are concerned no effort is made to obtain medicines of the standard quality. For indigenous medicines tenders are simply invited and whoever submits the lowest tender, his tender is accepted and the medicines are supplied by him. There is no guarantee that the medicines so supplied are pure and genuine and are of the required standard. The experience of those that have been using these medicines in the dispensaries is that they are almost useless. Therefore, I submit that no time should be lost and proper attention should be paid in the matter of improving the quality of the medicines as well as the quantity.

"నేనిపుడు ఇంగ్లీషులో చెప్పినదానిని తెలుగులో చెప్పెదను. మన దేశములో సాధారణముగా అనేక ప్రదేశములలో వాడుకలోనున్న మన దేశీయ వైద్యమునుగూర్చి ప్రభుత్వమువారు తగినంతశ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనుట లేదనియు, ముఖ్యముగా మన కాంగ్రెసు మంత్రి వర్గమువారు వచ్చిన తరువాతనైనను దేశీయ వైద్యమునకు తగిన సహాయము చేయుటలేదనియు శ్రీ వెంకటప్ప చెట్టియారుగారు తెలిపిన విషయములతో నేను ఏకీభవించుచున్నాను. ఇంకను కొన్ని ముఖ్య విషయములు గలవు. మన రాజధానిలోని గ్రామములలోని ప్రజలు వ్యవసాయదారులు. వారివల్ల ఏడుకోట్ల రూపాయలీ రాజధానిలో ఆదాయము వచ్చుచున్నది. వారికి వైద్య సహాయము చాలా తక్కువగా నున్నది. ఈ గ్రామములలో నుండే వైద్యశాలలలో చేసే వైద్యము చాలా అల్పముగా నున్నదనియు, ఆ ఇచ్చిన మందులైనను శ్రేష్టమైనవి కావనియు తెలియుచున్నది. గ్రామ వైద్యశాలలకు గవర్నమెంటువారు షుమారు సంవత్సరమునకు రూ 360 లు ఇచ్చెదరు. దీనిలో కొంత ధనము ఇచ్చటినుంచి అచ్చటికి మందులు పంపించుటకు పోస్టు, ప్యాకింగు ఖర్చుల క్రిందను, పోగా మిగిలిన సొమ్ము బీదలకిచ్చు మందుల క్రింద వినియోగపడుచున్నది. అనగా రోజుకు సగటున ఔషధము ఒక్కొక్క వైద్యశాలకు ఒక రూపాయి గవర్నమెంటు వారిచ్చుచున్నందున అందులో ఆరణాలు ఖర్చుల క్రింద సరిపోవును. మిగిలిన పదణాల విలువగల మందులు వైద్యశాలకు వచ్చిన 50 మందికో 60 మందికో ఏ మాత్రమును సరిపోదని స్పష్టముగా కాన్పించుచున్నది.

"అదియునుగాక మందులు సప్లయి చేయుటలోకూడా తక్కువ టెండర్లని తక్కువ ఖరీదుకు మందులు సప్లయి చేయువారివద్దనే తీసుకొనుచున్నారు. ఇది మన

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దేశీయ గ్రామ వైద్యశాలలకు మాత్రమే. ఇంగ్లీషు వైద్యశాలలకు మాత్రము చెన్నపట్ట ణములో గవర్నమెంటువారు పరీక్షచేయించి, ప్రసిద్ధమైన, యోగ్యమైన మందులు మాత్రమే సప్లయి చేయుదురు. మన దేశీయ వైద్యశాలలకు పరిశుద్ధముగా, శాస్త్రీ యంగా తయారు చేయబడిన మందులు సప్లయి అగుట లేదు. అందువల్ల ప్రజల కిచ్చిన మందులు వ్యర్థమైనవిగా నున్నవి. కాబట్టి ఇప్పటినుండైనను ప్రశిద్ధమైన ఔష ధములను దేశీయ వైద్యశాలలకు సప్లయి అగుటకు తగిన ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

" I have just one point which I omitted to mention while speaking in English and I may be permitted to mention it. The supply of surgical instruments in these dispensaries is very meagre. For example, instruments used for suture are not to be found there. Further very essential instruments required by the midwives to handle complicated deliveries are also not to be found and such defects are also to be remedied."

Kumararaja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad and three other Members rose from their places.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Each of the four hon. Members will only take three minutes and finish because the two hours for this debate will finish at ten minutes to six and we have got only 27 minutes more. The Hon. Minister will have hardly a quarter of an hour for his reply."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, I do not remember to have spoken on the Medical Demand last year and I wish to make a very few observations on a matter which has come to very great prominence on account of the new policy adopted by the Hon. the Minister for Public Health. It is not necessary for me to deal at length with the acts of omission and commission on the part of the Hon. Minister. I am sure some of them may be well answered by him in his reply. I wish only to concern myself with the apprehensions that have been created in the minds of the people in the matter of the honorary medical system. My submission is that in his anxiety to introduce the honorary system of doctors, the Hon. Minister has overdone it rather too much—I say it advisedly even though it may be redundant. I think however much he may be interested in pushing through the honorary system of doctors, of which profession he is an eminent member . . ."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I may inform the hon. the Leader of the Opposition that I was never an honorary medical man."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" True, Sir, he was never an honorary medical man. I had no doubt about it that he was never an honorary medical man. He was certainly charging fees. I was using that in the sense that is used by the Government at the present time and did not mean

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the doctors that render service without payment of any fees. I used it in the common accepted sense of the term. According to it those that are not in the service of the Government are encouraged to get themselves associated with honorary work with the idea of getting the services of the topmost men in the profession. The idea being that men in the top should be available to render advice to the assistants, one is disappointed to find that all and sundry are being appointed even down to the assistants. Things have come to this position, namely, even the assistants are to be honorary men. My submission is that such a position will undermine the efficiency of the hospitals. The hospital work should be in charge of a full-time employee of the Government and what is expected of the honorary men is that in addition to having a certain number of beds in their charge they should be available for consultation if the assistants require their services in cases under their charge. That, I submit, ought to be the policy with regard to the extension of the honorary system.

" There is one other point with regard to the honorary doctors. At the time when this system was introduced, there was some fear that there might be some discrimination; and certain assurances were given by the Hon. Minister—I am not sure whether it was on the floor of the House in reply to questions or outside the House—that when he terminates the services of honorary men who had been appointed previously, that does not mean that they would not be re-appointed if they are good men. The present rules make the appointment for a stated period whereas according to the old rules the appointments were made for all time, subject to good behaviour and removal after three months' notice if any charges are brought against them. When there was such a sweeping change made in the rules of appointment of honorary men, and when notice was issued to all, naturally there was an apprehension in the minds of the people and the Hon. Minister gave us to understand that the policy would be that eminent men would not be denied re-appointment. But that assurance has not been acted up to. I would only mention one glaring instance of the omission of re-appointment of Dr. P. Sadagopan, one of the most eminent physicians of this Presidency. It is not my opinion but I am only giving out the impression of people outside and none regrets his absence more than those students of the College that had the benefit of his lucid teaching and those of his patients that were fortunate to be treated by him. It is not because Dr. Sadagopan will be losing a few rupees that I am bringing this to the notice of the Government—in fact that gentleman himself would be annoyed at it; but there is a principle involved and there is an assurance which has been given the go-by. I am more concerned with the students that have lost the benefit of his teaching and the patients that have lost the benefit of his efficient and kind treatment. Let not hon. Members say that I have come forward with the case of an individual grievance. I have already explained that I am not putting it in

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that light. It is a most glaring instance of omission and he is a doctor with whom it would be impossible for the Government to find fault. I have placed this case before the Government because it is a very strong case

"I do hope that a better policy will be enunciated by the Government with regard to the honorary system which would increase the efficiency of the hospitals. Our hospitals which have been reputed to be very good are going down in the estimation of people and it behoves the Hon. Minister to take steps to inspire confidence in the minds of the people with respect to these institutions. The Hon. Minister will be doing good by appointing specialists and eminent men as honorary doctors and not all and sundry as assistants on an honorary basis. I also hope that the Government will not give any room for the feeling that they are discriminating against particular persons as they have possibly done in the case of Dr. Sadagopan. When I say this, I say this with a full sense of responsibility: while I am in favour of the honorary system to some extent, I consider the way in which the Government are applying it to be defective and that there is a great chance of the Government violating the assurance that has been given. I know that the Hon. the Minister for Public Health is a person not only well versed in the art of treating patients but also in the art of treating members of this House; I would appeal to him to see that the policy that he is adopting in the matter of reforming the Medical department is not carried out in such a way as to be open to attack. I am sure that if he makes up his mind, he would be able to put the department on a very sound footing and I have no doubt that he will be able to improve the tone of the department to a much greater extent than he has done so far."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, without losing any time, I should like to say a few words of what I feel with regard to this particular Demand. It is a well-known fact that the administration of the Hon. the Prime Minister is very unpopular, not merely because he has been trying to revolutionize things, but on account of the fact that he has been revolutionizing them to a degree where people cannot derive the advantage that they should do from the medical service which should be made available to the poor classes of the people. If I understand the honorary service, I understand it to mean the employment of experts as honorary people for the service of the poor who go to the various hospitals under the control of the Government. I cannot bring myself to understand honorary service to mean novices and people who have just graduated being put in charge of hospitals or even in charge of a ward. If I can understand the system which has been introduced by the Hon. Minister, it would for the first time come to the position of experts not being in charge of hospitals or not being in the hospitals at all to give service to the 5-30 p.m.

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poor people who go to the hospitals. Whereas a rich man can afford to pay a big fee to a medical man of the position even of my Hon. Friend, the Minister in charge, of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500 or Rs. 250 for a case,—every rich man can afford to employ an expert for a poor man who goes to the hospital it will be impossible. The best treatment available to him is to be treated by a novice, by a raw graduate, who has just come out of the college. That is the position to which the Government hospitals will be reduced sooner or later. It is to this state of affairs, I am afraid that the Hon. Minister is reducing these hospitals where poor people will not get the best medical help and medical advice.

" Sir, the next thing is that recently certain honorary appointments were made. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, has referred to one case. I do not want to go into many more cases where a really good principle has been applied to the benefit of certain people and it has been applied to the detriment of some others. I do not want to go into the quesion in detail; but the serious indifferent treatment of one class of people and a different treatment to another class of people certainly creates heart-burning and what is condemned in season and out of season as communalism.

" Then, Sir, now that this system has been introduced, hereafter the Government will not find it necessary to recruit new people to the service of the Government. I do not think any purpose will be served by showing to the Hon. Minister and also to the Hon. Premier what proportion of the Muslim community is represented in the Medical service, because, according to the scheme of my Hon. Friend in charge of Medicine, hereafter there will be no direct recruitment. But all the same I would like to show particularly to my hon. Friends who condemn communalism in other people, whereas they practise communalism themselves, that in the full cadre of Civil Surgeons including the Assistant Surgeons numbering nearly 250, there are only five Muslim officers. The Hon. Premier, the other day, showed facts and figures, according to him, to show that the Muslims are occupying very high positions and are getting very high percentages in the services. But this will show that out of 250 people there are only five Muslims; that shows that there is not even two per cent of Muslims in the services. That is the position. Hereafter even that chance is not possible. My Hon. Friend answering a question in this House said that all Mussalmans who could apply for honorary posts were welcome. I should like to state here that when so many people applied, only two of them were entertained. I do not know whether the Government or the Hon. Minister could not have employed a larger number. I do not want to take up any more time except to say that this scheme that has been adumbrated by the Hon. Minister will not be to the advantage of the poor people.

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"I want to say a word or two about the School of Indian Medicine. The treatment that my Hon. Friend has been meting out to that School and the hospital attached to it has not at all been commensurate with the requirements of that system. I do not know why medical men following a particular system should have a sort of step-motherly attitude towards other systems of medicine. All systems of medicine should receive fair and equitable treatment at the hands of the Minister. When a medical man is in charge of Medicine it becomes all the more necessary for him to give the same sort of treatment to the School of Indian Medicine. Those who are interested in the Indian School of Medicine have been depending on this Government and particularly on the Hon. Minister in charge of Medicine to introduce the necessary reforms and to extend its usefulness. But the paltry sum provided for in the Budget goes to show that the Hon. Minister is not interested in promoting the interests of Indian medicine."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"Sir, I support this cut motion with the object of emphasizing the need for increasing the number of rural dispensaries. I dare say the Government are alive to this dire need and to their responsibilities; but they have their own peculiar way of giving preference to one reform or improvement instead of another, and in their zeal for Prohibition they are apt to forget the difficulties experienced by the rural population in regard to medical aid. The existing number of rural dispensaries is very inadequate, and they are unable to give the rural population the measure of relief they require and expect. The days of village *vaidyas* are gone. Even in rural areas people think of hospitals and dispensaries. It is therefore the Government's duty to increase the number of rural dispensaries, gradually no doubt, but steadily and as an avowed policy. They should give liberal grants for the purpose.

"I have to make a few more suggestions for the Government's sympathetic consideration. One is the Government should take up and run all the taluk headquarters hospitals. No doubt there are some under the control of the Government at present and I hope the Government will take under their management the few dispensaries which are now under the control of the district boards. For various reasons which I need not go into on this occasion, the district boards are not able to run the hospitals as well as they ought to be. It would therefore be better if the Government themselves manage the hospitals. It is necessary that every taluk headquarters hospital should employ a lady sub-assistant surgeon. No doubt some hospitals have employed lady sub-assistant surgeons. I urge that every such hospital should have at its disposal the services of a lady sub-assistant surgeon. There are many cases of women that have to be attended to by a competent lady doctor. Therefore the services of a lady sub-assistant surgeon are indispensable. I appeal to the Hon. the Health Minister to attend

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at once to this rather urgent necessity. He will be conferring a boon on women if he adopts my suggestion; and I hope he will do so.

"I would like to know whether the present Government recognize Ayurveda as a useful branch of medical knowledge, whether it is their policy to encourage Ayurvedic physicians by giving them a place in their Public Health programme. I am forced to raise this question pointedly and specifically because some of the public utterances of the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan have created the unfortunate impression that he is not well disposed towards Ayurveda; and a fear lurks in the minds of Ayurvedic physicians that with the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, as the Health Minister, the Government are apt to forget the greatness, and refuse to recognize the merits, of Ayurveda. I hope the Hon. the Health Minister will clarify his own attitude as well as that of the Government towards Ayurveda.

"I have a few points to say about the honorary medical service. The Government are very partial . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Every member has stated it. I think the matter becomes so stale that it loses its importance."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"One minute more, Sir. In the matter of appointments, the Government . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister will not have time to reply."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"The Hon. Minister is appointing only raw graduates to serve as . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not allow a repetition of the raw graduate story. So I request the hon. Member not to repeat the same."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"I request the Hon. Minister in the matter of appointment to give due consideration to the communal Government Order and to do justice to all communities."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The time before the Hon. Minister is only seven or eight minutes. What time will the Hon. Minister require?"

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have got to reply to all the points raised by hon. Members here."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it difficult for you to say what time you will require?"

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN: "I shall certainly adjust myself to the ruling of the Chair. Whenever I am asked to sit down I will sit. I want to make a statement on behalf of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What is the approximate time you want? "

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I really can't say. I shall be very brief."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Some people have not the capacity to judge time."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Especially medical men." (Laughter.)

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I find as many as thirteen speakers have expressed their opinion on this cut motion. Let me first and foremost deal with the important issues raised in the course of the discussion—Firstly the question of the policy of the Government with regard to the appointment of honorary medical officers. Last year when I spoke on this motion I made the position of the Government absolutely clear. But I find that after the lapse of a year more criticisms have gathered round the ideas about the honorary medical service than what was apparent even last year. I am not surprised because opposite interests always have got the force of making themselves felt. And, to the extent honorary service threatens to displace paid staff or makes it inconvenient and uncomfortable for the paid staff, I know the volume of criticism will grow. But it does not take away from the principle the great advantage which I claim for it. Before I proceed further, I want to make the point clear that this honorary system is not of my creation. It has been there for the last twelve years and what I have done during the course of these twenty months is to enhance the pace of employment of honorary medical officers. I challenge any member of this House to come and tell me that we have appointed inferior/type of medical men. I make bold to say this: there is no mistake, for I know the appointments that have been made. If members had drawn my attention to the fact certain poorly qualified persons or unworthy persons have been appointed to the place, I should have been very thankful for the information given. That would have been true criticism. But beyond a general statement, no specific instance has been brought to the notice of the House during the discussion. I claim this that in the appointments made so far we have employed much better qualified men than have ever been employed by this Government till now. We have employed highly qualified men—qualified not only in India but abroad, not in one aspect of the science but by passing the strictest examinations held in England and other places. If academic merit, length of service and knowledge are anything that can be counted for in honorary appointments, I dare say that we have appointed persons with unquestionable qualifications. Any man who knows anything about medicine will have to take his hat off and say, 'You have made the best appointments.' Therefore, I would have had much greater enlightenment if I had been told that I had appointed men of inferior calibre. 5-45 p.m.

" Another point with regard to policy that was brought to my notice is this: that the assistant medical officers have been of an inferior type. This is another wild statement without any knowledge of the nature of the appointments. Only University graduates who have undergone special training in hospitals as House Surgeons and House Physicians and who have put in service both as practitioners outside are chosen. They are not chosen straightaway as surgeons or physicians. They are chosen as assistant medical officers and their functions is to work in co-operation with the surgeon or physician under whom they are placed and they are placed in that position of assistant medical officer for five years. Therefore, to say that we have employed inferior medical men is not true and does not bear out all that we have done in the matter of these appointments.

" With regard to only one instance to which my attention has been drawn by the Leader of the Opposition, I have to make a statement. He was my predecessor in office and I am glad to hear that he hoped much from me. It is certainly very kind of him to extend that type of patronage to me who is his successor in office. But I claim to know something more, apart from the profession, than what he may claim to know. He brought to my notice the glaring instance of a gentleman, of an eminent doctor, whose services have been terminated. The object of the Government when they made this rule of five years was to give the opportunity to as many medical men as possible to get the benefit of hospital practice, which means the enrichment of their knowledge and experience. At the end of the five years the Government have taken the option to keep them for another five years or more when they find that their knowledge and experience is useful for the hospital; and therefore, in all these appointments if at the end of the five years it is found that the doctor has qualified himself for a higher position by knowledge, by passing examinations and by undergoing practical training, we have never been at all slow in recognizing these people and retaining them. But in honorary service, as in any other service, an indefinite life tenure of service is a thing that is never aimed at and is bad in principle. This gentleman whose services have been terminated was the oldest man in service. He has put in thirteen years and six months of service and I am glad to learn that he is a leading practitioner whose time is very precious. While the Government unreservedly acknoweldge his services to the hospital and to the large number of students that have passed through his hands and the testimony that has been given by the Surgeon-General and others regarding his merit and about his excellence, they could not possibly extend the time beyond thirteen years. For, if we did that in his case we could not recruit even one single honorary medical man, because every one would claim as a precedent that where a man has been kept for thirteen years he may also be likewise kept. Therefore, the first principle of working the system satisfactorily was to see

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that men who have put in more than thirteen years service, who have had a reputation as consulting physicians, whose income and recognition by the public has been very good, must at least show some consideration to the few who are not so luckily placed in life, and that is exactly what has been done.

" But what about those that have been appointed? Men of equal reputation, men of equal knowledge, men who have rendered valuable service to the country have been appointed. There are men, more vigorous men, who are still waiting for an opportunity to serve the country. I ask, Sir, should we for the sake of one gentleman, however competent and good he may be, say that the whole class should wait because he should run on as long as he lives? It is a very unfair position to be taken by anybody, anyone with any sense of patriotism or justice to make any such claim. In making appointments, the consideration is not caste, creed or community. I would like to remind the House that medicine is a science and its practice is an art, and it is not everybody that can be made a medical man because he belongs to a particular community. I make this statement because of the remarks made, particularly by my hon. Friend, the Member representing the Muslim constituency of Madras. I can say that we have appointed, and still will continue to appoint, as many Muslim members as apply. I might draw his attention to a competitive examination held in 1937 wherein we wanted twelve candidates out of whom we reserved three seats for members of the Muslim community. But, sorry to say, Sir,—and the hon. Member must know it—not a single Muslim applied for the place. Subsequently the hon. Gentleman himself came to me and said that Muslim boys were age-barred. In their case the age-limit had been extended to 28 years but he wanted a further extension up to 32 years. The Government were willing to consider it. By that time the honorary system was taken on hand and recruitment was stopped."

(Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur said something from his seat.)

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member should not speak sitting. If hon. Members want to speak they must rise from their seats."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" That is what I tried to do. But my hon. Friend, the Minister, did not allow me."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" If he will not give way, then you cannot speak. Hon. Members must observe perfect silence."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" What is the meaning of ' perfect silence? ' "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" ' Perfect silence ' means not making noise, audible noise. The Chair is disturbed. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan has spoken in such a fashion that I could not follow the speech of the Hon. Minister which the Chair is bound to follow.

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I will earnestly request all members hereafter to observe perfect silence. If they want to raise any point of order or offer any personal explanation, they should simply rise from their seats. If the person speaking gives way they may speak. If it is a point of order, the Chair will allow it. Otherwise they must rest content that the member in possession of the House must be allowed to continue. That is their right also in their turn."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I was just making a statement as to how it was impossible for any Government on earth to employ people for a specialized work in which a certain minimum qualification is absolutely necessary. Medicine being a science, it is not possible to appoint any body and every body because he belongs to a particular community. But as far as this Government are concerned we have always been willing to allow as many as possible of those who are qualified to enter; and I gave a specific instance when the community did not come forward at the time when we wanted them, on account of some difficulties. But with regard to the honorary system that is now in vogue, I may say that for all the posts only one Muslim graduate applied and we have entertained him in service. There has been no other application and as far as possible instructions have been issued to the Departments concerned, that those communities that are not represented in the service shall have perference over others. When there was only one who applied and when he has been appointed I do not believe that the community has any right to say that the Government have not been fair.

"With regard to the extension of honorary medical practice, I am yet to see that it has adversely affected the attendance of the hospital or of anybody else so far. Our hospitals continue to be as popular and perhaps more popular than ever. Therefore, when people make a statement that the hospitals have become unpopular, I am yet to see the unpopularity that they complain of. Is it in attendance or in point of service? Or is it the result of statistics that are published in the hospital year after year with regard to the work of the hospital, I would like to know. Therefore, it is regrettable to note that statements are made without proper figures or facts and it is very difficult in a matter of this nature where a cut motion is made, that the Government are not helped with such facts and figures. Mere statement of ideas or opinions does not afford any great help. If instances were brought to the notice of the Government where injustice or unpopularity has developed in the insitutions, it will be of very great help to the Government to rectify the defects, if possible. But as, far as these suggestions have led me to understand, I have not been very much helped by the discussion.

" But, leave that alone. There is the question raised by Mr. Town. I am very glad to know he has got very good knowledge of hospitals both here and abroad. He has also told us that I have got some knowledge both here and abroad of these

hospitals. I consider the Madras General Hospital to be a first-class hospital in this part of the world. I do not want to go and compare it with other European hospitals. But I must express my opinion now that the Madras General Hospital is perhaps the best institution one could have in this country. The record of work that is turned out in that institution has not yet been surpassed by any other institution. You cannot expect district head-quarters hospitals to be on the same level as the Madras General Hospital. But, when considering the question of efficiency of the hospitals, I do not want people to understand that a certain atmosphere of cleanliness and certain arrangement of buildings is the end of all hospital administration. What is really aimed at is relief to the people that go to the hospitals. And, I would like Mr. Town to come and tell me that the relief offered in our hospitals has suffered or has been unsatisfactory. For, I notice that the statistical returns of all the hospitals in this Province have on no account been any less than what they have been in the previous years; and if anything, the record is growing better year after year. Considering the general build of our people, their poor 6 P.M. physical resistance and also the climatic conditions of our country, I contend, and I rightly contend, that our record of success is better any day than any record of any hospital in the world, given the same conditions. Therefore it is wrong to compare the two things. You can only compare equal things. The hospitals in England have got first-class material; the patients are healthy and capable of resisting any disease. But unfortunately in our country the people are poor and ignorant. With such material it is difficult to show better results. Under such adverse conditions for working, we have produced very good results and therefore it is a matter for congratulation and not for criticism. But I may say, Sir, helpful criticism wishing to show up the defects that exist will be welcome.

"With regard to the position of nurses, I want to tell Mr. Town that the Government have certainly in view the question of increasing the number, when they reduced the pay. But nurses take time to train. Nurses could not be made in a day or two. We have given specific instructions to the Surgeon-General to recruit the maximum number required for all the hospitals. But recruitment is only made twice a year. I may assure Mr. Town that in June when the next recruitment is made, a large number will be recruited from out of the applicants. But there is one difficulty. The savings that are anticipated are not real savings at the moment. The reduction of pay does not affect the existing incumbents; it affects only the future entrants. So, whatever savings we may hope to get will be ours only in future years. But I may say that whatever savings we get as a result of the reduction of pay will be utilized for increasing the number of nurses in our hospitals.

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" With regard to the tuberculosis work which Mr. Appadurai Pillai mentioned, I just want to tell him that this is a malady which is of late getting a little more recognition than in the past. There is now better diagnosis and capable medical men have now come on the field with the result that the disease which was not thoroughly diagnosed in the past is being done so now. The increase in the tubercular phenomena in the country is therefore to a large extent due to better methods of diagnosis, better perception of the disease and also the relief which people seek on account of the disease. I certainly agree that the hospitals that we have got and the sanatoria that we have got are not sufficient for our needs. No amount of State aid can ever be able to meet the growing demand in this direction. But the Government are doing their best. They are trying to increase the accommodation in the Tuberculosis Hospital. In this one year, Tambaram which started with 40 beds has been provided with 87 beds. We have programmed to increase it to 200 beds. It will be a hospital and a sanatorium and we are going on with the improvements as quickly as possible. With regard to the Madanapalle sanatorium we have given enormous help. The institution to-day owes its existence to the gift and zeal of the Madras Government. To start that institution, enormous sums both in the way of grants and building grants were given and, in addition, annually capitation grants are also given. Annually a sum of Rs. 37,000 is being paid to the Madanapalle sanatorium alone. More than all this, thousand acres of land have been given free by Government and they have given also half of the cost of the construction of the buildings so far. So nobody can say that the Government have not done their best for that institution even by starving some deserving institutions.

" For another sanatorium at Visranthipuram the Government are to-day paying Rs. 6,000. If more people come and more people resort to this institution, we can only do our best with our limited resources. Therefore private relief and private charity must necessarily find a place and such of the Members as feel keen on this question should come forward, and, even as I do, take the hat round and beg for funds. Therefore I should request everybody to co-operate with the Government in what they are doing. The Perundurai sanatorium has grown up and a sum of more than 2½ lakhs of rupees has been spent on it. But the unfortunate position is that they are clamouring for a capitation grant and the Government are unable to grant the same. My own impression after inspecting all the sanatoria in the Province is that this sanatorium is going to make history in this country. Its location is splendid and in fact it challenges even Madanapalle in this respect. It is on a fairly high level. It is not as malarial as Madanapalle, and the water-supply of the place, thanks to Providence, is excellent and abundant. We have found water

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there in such abundance that the water-supply question is once for all solved. Though it is in a dry place a few tube-wells recently sunk there are supplying enormous quantity of water sufficient to meet the requirements of the sanatorium. There are 400 acres of land still awaiting development in the place and I am sure this Government are morally bound to help that sanatorium as much as any other sanatorium to which they have given help so far.

"In this connexion hon. Members will be glad to know that Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow has taken a good deal of interest in this question and they may feel proud that this Province has contributed something close upon 5 lakhs of rupees to the Tuberculosis Relief Fund. Very soon this sum will be given to us and tubercular relief will be more energetically taken on hand. More than that no Government can do. Hon. Members may rest assured that ever since this Government took office, we have gone into the question individually and collectively and we have set apart as much funds as we can for this purpose. We have not diminished one pie of the hospital grant. Therefore it is unnecessary for me to describe the efforts of the Government in further detail.

"With regard to the Mental Hospital about which Mr. Krishna Rao made some observations, I have only to say this: I admit that it is very much overcrowded and that the hospital is not keeping pace with the development of mental defects in our country. But I may assure him that this year we have nearly completed a building which will accommodate 76 more patients. Also there is just the possibility that the criminal lunatics in the hospital may be transferred to Cuddalore where originally they were expected to be lodged separately. If that scheme fructifies we will have more space in the Madras Mental Hospital.

"Then there is the question of lack of drainage arrangements. I may mention, Sir, I was asked to say whether I preferred to have a drainage constructed or a building constructed. As a medical man I preferred the former as it is no use having a new building in insanitary surroundings. Therefore priority was given this year to drainage works.

"On the question of the treatment given to L.M.Ps. a certain incorrect statement was made. Government never promised, when they raised the L.M.P. course to five years, that they will accord equal treatment to L.M.Ps. with University men. We only offered to give them good education and good education is being given. But I know that when once they have got the necessary qualifications, it is wrong to place them or a lower cadre. It is an insult to their qualifications and to their intelligence. The only right course to adopt is to abolish the whole thing and provide a uniform standard of medical education in all institutions. Medical education cannot be given in drops and driblets and in small doses. We have therefore

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standardized the whole thing and we have made it impossible in this Province at any rate to have any grades in this profession. We were the first to do that and, seeing this, the Central Board of Medicine and other provinces met together and decided to follow the system we have chalked out. Therefore the question of L.M.Fs. now concerns only such of those who possess this old diploma. But, if time is given, we shall consider what relief can be possibly given to these people also.

"Then Mr. Krishna Rao said that an examiner for the F.R.C.S. test came over to this country and made a remark that our medical students do not compare favourably with others. It is very regrettable that gentlemen who come here to hold some examination should make such statements as are attributed to them."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I say, Sir, that I saw that observation published in one of the respectable dailies of Madras?"

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In that case I will give it only the credit due to information gathered from a newspaper. But I know this much that when the F.R.C.S. examination was held here, more than 55 per cent of our students were successful. I take it as a better record than what is usually got even in England where these examinations are being held for the last so many years. I do not know the result of the last examination, but I make bold to say it is unnecessary for our students, in view of the conditions prevailing here, to feel that their qualifications are in any way either superior or inferior. I value foreign degrees very much. I know that in the foreign countries medical science has advanced a great deal. They are making researches in many fields and we shall certainly go and learn from them. But why should the examiners come all the way from England to India for holding their tests? Why should they do it? They do it for two reasons. One is to make two years' study less for appearing for the final examination in England. To that extent we are thankful and grateful to them. But there is also this thing: they make these people go to England and spend so much time there and qualify themselves for further examinations. In a way they are thereby placing temptations before our people and make them appear for the final examination in England. The desire of this Government is to make our examinations stiff and equal to any other examination held by anybody else in the world. We have got our M.Ss. or Masters of Surgery and M.Ds. or Masters of Medicine. Speaking as a medical man, I must say that our degree of M.S. or M.D. is not inferior to any degree conferred by any University either in the East or in the West. That is my claim. When such is the case, why should our people go and waste their time in foreign countries acquiring qualifications there? In fact one of these unfortunate honorary men

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whom we have appointed is an F.R.C.S. of England and an F.R.C.S. of Edinburgh. To the candidates themselves this multiplicity of qualifications is becoming a burden. They make the claim, 'We have got so many qualifications, Sir, from this University and that.' It is such men we are appointing as honorary surgeons and physicians. Therefore, hon. Members must understand that we are not playing with the life of the people. We love our people as much as anybody else and we give them the best that is possible, which is better than what had been given to them all these years. It is on these fundamental principles of giving the best help possible to our people that we have devised this system, and while it is working we are taking particular care to see that the best men are employed. I am happy to say that such best men are available in our country and that when a vacancy occurs and it is advertised, we get applications from men possessing more than one foreign degree. It shows that an opportunity is given to people with good qualifications and merit and it is in order to provide opportunities for young and efficient men that this honorary system is provided for. It is not as if only men who have worked for twenty or thirty years as honorary surgeons in hospitals alone that will be able to treat surgical and other cases satisfactorily and others cannot.

6-1l p.m

"There has been more than one reference made by people with regard to the step-motherly treatment that is meted out to indigenous systems of medicine. It is a most unfair attack that has been made on this Government. I claim to know Ayurveda; I claim to have studied Ayurveda as well as any other Ayurvedic physician. I have translated Ayurvedic works. I have sat at the feet of a professor who knows the work. When they say that I am giving a step-motherly treatment to Ayurvedic system they do not know what I know about Ayurvedic system. I claim that Ayurveda is really a science. But I do not go by particular systems. I consider Ayurveda system as allopathic system; I consider Unani system as allopathic system. Allopathic system is not confined to Western system of medicine alone. It includes Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine as well. But when people come and say that those people who have undergone their courses of studies in these systems of medicine should be placed on a par with those who have studied the Western system of medicine, then I hesitate to acknowledge them as such for this reason: that Ayurveda had done good work in the past but its growth has been woefully arrested. That could be made up either by getting the best out of the Western system and incorporating it in the Indian system or by devoloping the Indian system to the level of the Western system. That is the correct procedure. That I can understand. If, on that account, people should turn round and say that Western system is in its infancy and Ayurveda is perfect and the Western system comes to play

only a second fiddle, then I cannot understand it. Therefore, whenever people make such statements, I feel that patriotism and sentiment override ordinary commonsense, because they have failed to appreciate that while in regard to surgical work, diseases of women, researches made in X-rays, etc., the allopathic science has made great advances and has given relief to hundreds and thousands of people in other parts of the world, Ayurveda has not even touched the fringe of the problem. And because we are able to get such a scientific treatment from highly qualified people and from people who have studied a rational system, we claim to cure all the diseases of men. We cannot say that Ayurveda by a *mantram* or any drug is going to cure the whole lot of people who are suffering from diseases. It may be that there is some drug here or there which may be able to cure particular diseases and we are asked to believe it, just as we are asked to believe that there is a woman who is living for 35 years without taking any food or water at all. It is possible that such a thing would happen, but till all of us become *Siddhas* and till we become great *Yogis* and till we are able to see with our naked eyes all the things that are inside the human body such as the nerves, the stomach and so on, we cannot avoid making use of the X-rays and other things which Western science has made available to us. So, there is no use in saying that Ayurvedic medicine was very good in olden days. To-day also it may continue to be an art, but the scientific understanding of diseases and the application of scientific methods to the requirements of the diseases have been perfected under the Western system of medicine and I claim that Ayurvedic system is defective in those respects.

"My idea is that the Indian School of Medicine, as it stands to-day, is deficient in that knowledge of Western medicine which should make its graduates equal to others. However, I have gone and inspected the Indian School of Medicine. It is working there for the last twelve years. I do not complain about those who originated that institution. I am sorry to say that that institution has been running all these years without a syllabus of studies. I called for a syllabus of that school, and to my utter shame I must confess that I was sent a time-table. I wrote to the Principal and asked him whether he did not understand what was meant by a syllabus. He said, 'We have got no syllabus for the School.' That is the state of affairs in the School which I would not have revealed but for the unfair attacks which are made in season and out of season, both in the Press and on the platforms. There is no use of confusing patriotism and nationalism with science and treatment of diseases. Treatment of diseases is essential for those who suffer from such diseases. Nationalism, patriotism or communalism has no place in it. To the extent that Ayurveda satisfies scientific investigation, I am bound, as a son of India, to resuscitate the Ayurvedic system. Let us not close our eyes to the grave defects that have of late or for the last 100 years grown round that

system. If we are patriotic, if we are honest, let us clean these defects and bring the science to the level of modern knowledge and give it to our people. Then it will be time enough to complain. The pupils who come out of a school which has no syllabus except an old Ayurvedic text-book, have no right to say, 'Give us the same status as you give to allopathic doctors.' We must certainly resist such a claim. There are three systems of Indian medicine, viz., (1) the Siddha which is claimed to be purely Tamil, (2) the Unani which is purely a Muslim system and (3) the Ayurvedic system which is supposed to be a system based upon Vedas. When I talk of the Siddha system here, I may say there is no text-book at all in that institution regarding that system. All these systems are taught by means of notes and lectures. There is no standard fixed. When I asked the Principal whether he had no text-books for these systems, he replied, 'We are in the stage of evolution of a synthetic system of medicine. It is very difficult to evolve text-books now. In course of time it may be possible to have text-books and a syllabus.' He also said, 'I want to have researches made in Indian medicine.' When he made this statement it looked as if researches made in the modern laboratories that we have in medical colleges cannot be made applicable to Indian medicine. Sir, we have got in the Madras Medical College a Research Institute essentially meant for indigenous drugs. It is working for the last seven years. It costs nearly a lakh of rupees for fitting all the necessary apparatus and we are spending every year Rs. 25,000 to keep it quite up to date. This Research Institute is entirely meant for the resuscitation of the Ayurvedic system. The authorities of the Indian School of Medicine apply for money year after year not knowing why we are spending so much money for the Research Institute in the Medical College. If I remove that institute, a cry will come that we are doing great harm to the cause of Ayurvedic science. But I may say this: that the institute is not doing good work. Research work is still in progress. We know that hundreds of young men are sleeping without making use of their time in making researches. No effort in the direction of research is being made.

"Then, coming again to the School of Indian Medicine, the authorities say they are teaching allopathic system of medicine there. I know that no other Hon. Minister has ever stepped into that school in the past. I make that statement without any fear of contradiction, because I know, as a fact, that people who are not conversant with any system of medicine opened that institution. They were all good men; they were all nationalists; and they liked such institutions. I certainly honour them. But I certainly cannot take their opinions. If the Ayurvedic system is to be made scientific, it has got to be worked much more diligently and much more effectively; more life should be infused into the institution and more efforts should be made by the authorities concerned to evolve a scientific system and make it up to date. A

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doctor who came from another Province and who inspected this Indian School of Medicine reported to me thus: 'I went into the Chemistry room and I found one old shelf with half a dozen broken bottles; that is all the laboratory room. I went into the Physics room and I found one or two broken scale-pans and one or two batteries; and I was made to understand that physics is being taught there. I went into the Physiological department and there was nothing there except a few microscopes.' Those who were responsible for the management of the institution never asked me for laboratories or for scientists to go and work there. Not one application has been made to me. I have taken this opportunity to expose the manœuvre that is maliciously made to discredit this Government that we are giving a step-motherly treatment to this institution. We are not spending anything less for this institution than in the past. To-day we are prepared to make this offer. Let all those who have come out of this college go to us; we will teach them the methods with regard to prevention of diseases. But their idea is so different that we do not know where the two will meet. However, I have taken the risk. I am giving them the required training in order to see what we can do with them. I have gone even further. I saw the equipment and the training that is given to the poor girls there; absolutely very little is done. My heart bled to see these poor girls ignorant of so many things, particularly in the field of maternity relief. What we have done is to arrange for a six months course of training in the Gosha Hospital for all these girl students in midwifery and other diseases peculiar to women. We have given them facilities which they had never before. Finally I would say this: that if the authorities of the Indian School of Medicine would co-operate with us, we would give them not one hospital, but fifteen hospitals for these pupils to undergo training. They are averse to send their students to other institutions. They say, 'Our system of treatment is different.' So what is the good of asking me for more hospitals? If they have got any faith in their system, they must stand face to face with us and face our criticism boldly. I said that the students coming out of that school must undergo an examination under allopathic examiners in order to enable us to find out how far they are equal to the allopathic doctors. The Principal says they ought to be examined only by those who are products of that school. We do not know what the actual position in that school is. There is no indication with regard to the actual facts prevailing in that school. In this connexion, I may say that unfortunately the institution has not been under the control of any department of Government except the responsibility of the Minister and no special department has been made responsible for the administration of this institution. The establishment of the institution was purely the work of an individual supported by a willing committee.

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" But I must confess, Sir, that it lacks a lot of the things which ordinary medical education would warrant us to have. I am not treating the institution with any hostility. I say this simply because I want to help the institution. I want those who are responsible for the institution to co-operate with me in what I have done so far; and if anything further is to be done, to tell me exactly what they want. There was a demand for 400 beds. I am prepared to give them that number provided they show me the necessity for that number. There is provision for 80 beds and so far, at no time has the attendance exceeded 96. I am very correct in my figures. The requirements of the institution are for 16 more beds and when that is so, how can they ask for 100 and 200? No exaggeration ought to be made in the demand. The need has to be proved and the financial provision for it demanded; then certainly the Government who are interested not only in the advancement of the Ayurvedic system as such but also in the health of the people will not fail to encourage a system which we know to be cheap, easily available and believed in by a large number of people as being useful. It is on this ground that I want to give a clear picture of the difficulties of the Government in bringing the institution to the required standard. It is not that we are going to reduce the staff if there is necessity for it. If one or two people have been removed it was for very good reasons. Research work was not done and so no useful purpose was served by keeping on research people. The Government want to improve the standard of education of the boys who go out of this institution so that their education may compare favourably with the education received by the boys of the other institutions and in order to make them self-confident in the light of the knowledge they have received and not merely in the possession of certain ideas of equality and patriotism. 6-30 p.m.

" With regard to rural medical practitioners I must say that we have in the course of the last one year or eighteen months appointed 90 extra rural medical practitioners. With regard to midwives we have given 125 extra midwives during the last eighteen months. Before that, during the previous ten years the total number of midwives appointed was barely 100 while during one year I have provided villages with 125 midwives. With regard to rural dispensaries the Government alone have sanctioned 84 new ones while the district boards have sanctioned sixteen new ones. In fact the idea of extending relief in rural areas is occupying the attention of the Government a great deal. Reference has been made to the Co-operative Health Unit Scheme. We are doing our best to develop this idea so that we can have the rural Co-operative Health Unit hospitals in places where rural medical relief is not available. In course of time we want to make our people self-supporting with the influence of these co-operative societies, so that health matters may be attended to in all villages. Even there

the progress made within one year is something which has not been attained in this Province so far.

" With regard to the treatment of the rural medical practitioners we have issued a new order under which their terms of service have been secured. They have been taken out of the purview of party politics and out of the sweet will and pleasure of the district officer and the district board president. The Government have given them such an amount of security of service, as it were, that they have no reason to complain. While we have given them the security and protection of service we have not thrown on them the responsibility of the service. We have given them Rs. 15 extra for sanitary work. My hon. Friend wanted that they should be given Rs. 30. It means an addition of Rs. 15. We are fully alive to the fact that they should be encouraged.

" One peculiar thing was brought to my notice. It was the equation between the doctor's pay and the cost of the medicine. It is rather funny that such an equation should have been evolved. The point was whether a man getting medicines worth only four annas or twelve annas need pay the doctor Rs. 50. If the medicine is worth four annas, is the doctor worth four annas? If the medicine is worth Rs. 2, is the doctor worth Rs. 2? Or, on the other hand, if the medicine is got for nothing from a jungle, does it follow that the doctor should not be paid anything? The value of the service rendered by a doctor cannot at any time be measured by the charge he makes for his medicine. I was surprised to find such a curious argument mentioned on the floor of the House. I need not dilate upon this further. I only wanted to expose the ridiculousness of it.

" Sir, I think that I have met the various arguments and the issues raised in the course of the debate. I have made the position of the Government perfectly clear—the attitude which they have taken with regard to medical services as such and also with regard to the different systems of medicine which are under their control. It is open to the L.I.Ms. to come and join a willing Government and give them the necessary help. There is no use of making indefinite allegations about the apathy of the Government. Anybody who cares to see and enquire would realize that we have done something to them which has never been done till now. We have accelerated the pace of acquisition of knowledge for these people. If I am forcing higher standards and better application on the part of the teachers and the students, I mean it well for the School, for the system of education and for the science which they profess. I want them not to be any lower than those who are in possession of knowledge that is acquired by the other systems of medicine. To that extent the school must come up to my expectations. To the extent to which they come up, the Government would be pleased to give them help.

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" Finally with regard to the honorary system, I claim that we have put before the country a most rational system. It is not as if all paid men have disappeared from the scene. The scheme has been in existence for the last twelve years. We have only accelerated the pace because we have got so much knowledge and so much material available. We have utilized them most economically and scientifically for the relief of the poor. It is not as if hospitals are staffed with inferior people because it is only poor people who go there. It is wrong. The whole idea is to provide more knowledge and a better standard of professional skill available to the whole country. We cannot confine these things to one X in the General Hospital and another Y in the Vizagapatam Hospital. We want to distribute a large number of able physicians and surgeons all over the district hospitals. Experience can be gained only by working in big hospitals for a number of years. The idea underlying the whole thing is to enrich the hospitals by the service of well-trained and well-qualified men and incidentally give the benefit of the knowledge and the opportunities of working in big hospitals to as many doctors as possible. Therefore it is wrong to imagine that hospitals are made the dumping ground of inefficient doctors, because all the qualifications necessary for first-class doctors are there to-day. After all who are these service men? They had been recruited only as Assistant Surgeons.

" Another hon. Member said that among Civil Surgeons there were only five Muslims. The civil surgeonship belongs to a cadre and anybody can become one after the necessary number of years of service. A most astounding statement was made by Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai that we were now appointing a lot of people to places to which we said we would not appoint. It is a thorough mistake, for no further appointments have been made. Vacancies came because we did not appoint people. These people who were qualified to be Assistant Surgeons but were recruited as Sub-Assistant Surgeons were promised to be appointed as Assistant Surgeons in due course when they entered service after having been recruited by the Madras Service Commission. These people who had been found fit to occupy the post of Assistant Surgeons were given a promise to be made Assistant Surgeons. There is no question of community or class here. The Public Service Commission recruited them as Sub-Assistant Surgeons though they had very high qualifications. The Government said that if these people entered as Sub-Assistant Surgeons they would be promoted as Assistant Surgeons after a certain number of years. What we have done is to keep that promise and promote these people as vacancies in the higher cadre came. We promoted them from an inferior cadre to the Assistant Surgeons' cadre to which they are entitled to belong according to the promise made by the Government and according to the terms of their employment. No new recruitment or new appointment was made. The whole thing was

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fallacious. It was unfortunately published in a rabid paper which publishes scathing criticism without knowing what it is all about. I want to explain the position to hon. Members so that they may understand that no new recruitment has been made and that whatever appointment was made was made in fulfilment of the obligation laid on the Government when these people were originally recruited independent of any communal or caste consideration. It is not necessary to labour the point further. If I have cleared a misconception, an absolutely unwarranted one, I would have done my duty. It was a suggestion which was mischievously made in a paper and repeated here. I have nothing more to add.

"Having explained the position which the Government have taken, I hope hon. Members who have heard my explanation and the exposition of the Government policy will now withdraw their cut motions and allow this Demand to be passed."

Mr. H. S. TOWN:—"I beg leave to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

* The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 28,31,700 *under Demand XVII—Public Health*'."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Who will move the cut motion? Is Mr. Hameed Khan moving the cut motion regarding the policy of the Government?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If you want, I can move one now, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"With regard to the policy of the Government?"

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. Speaker, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 28,31,700 *for Public Health be reduced by Rs.* 100'."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I may inform the hon. Member—he has come into the House just now—that the time allotted for speeches of hon. Members is only ten minutes; at seven minutes, the first bell will be rung, and he will be allowed another three minutes. If the hon. Member so chooses, he may avail himself of these three minutes to give the substance of his speech in English, in Urdu or Tamil, or utilize that time to continue his English speech . . ."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I may straightaway start in some language other than English, if I have your permission."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Oh, yes, absolutely; you are always welcome to speak in a language other than English."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது நான் பிரேரிக்கும் பிரேரணை என்னவென்றால் பப்ளிக் ஹெல்த் மானியத்திலிருந்து . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" And if all the members speak in Tamil, the Hon. Minister also will reply in Tamil." (Laughter.)

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" சட்டசபையில் இம்மாதிரி விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி தமிழில் பேசி வழக்கமில்லை. மிகவும் கஷ்டம் ஏற்படும்போலிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் முடிந்தவரையில் நான் பேசவேண்டும்.

" இந்தப் பப்ளிக் ஹெல்த் மானியத்திலிருந்து நூறு ரூபாய் குறைத்து விடவேண்டுமென்பது என் பிரேரணை. இது எதற்காக? மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய கொள்கையைப்பற்றி பரிசீலனை செய்யவேண்டும். மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய கொள்கையைப்பற்றி பரிசீலனை செய்யுங் காலத்தில் ஒன்று மறக்க முடியாது. இதுகாறும் பப்ளிக் ஹெல்த் டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் ஏராளமான வேலைகள் செய்யப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. அது பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்றாய் செலவு செய்யக் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. எனினும் இன்னும் பொது ஜனங்களிடையே செய்யவேண்டிய வேலைகள் பலவாறாக இருக்கின்றன. அவ்வேலைகளை அவர்கள் செய்துமுடிக்கவில்லை என்பதுதான் நம்முடைய கோரிக்கையாகும். முக்கியமாய் சில கூட்டத்தினர்கள் இருக்கின்றனர். நம்முடைய பொது ஜனங்களிடையே சில வகுப்பினர் பொது சுகாதார முறைகளை அறியாத முறையில் தங்களுடைய வாழ்க்கையை நடத்திவருகின்றார்கள். அவர்களிடையே பிரசாரம் மிகவும் தேவை. அவர்களிடையே சுகாதார ஞானம் பரவவேண்டும். அவர்களிடத்தில் நோய்களும் பிணிகளும் மலிந்து கிடக்கின்றன. நாளடைவிலே இந்த சென்னைமாநகரத்திலே தண்ணீர் வசதி குறைந்திருந்தபோதிலும் வியாதிகள் அதிகப்படவில்லை என்று சந்தோஷப்படக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருந்தபோதிலும், பொதுவாக இராஜதானி முழுவதிலும் இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் நிலைமையைவிட நாம் இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் முன்னேற்றமடையவேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. இரண்டு மூன்று சமூகங்கள் இருக்கின்றன அந்த சமூகங்களிடையே சுகாதார வாழ்க்கைக்குப் போதுமான வசதிகள் இன்னமும் கிடைக்கவில்லை. அதற்குக் காரணம் உடனே சொல்லிவிடக்கூடும். மந்திரி அவர்கள், ' நம்மிடையே போதுமான திரவியமில்லை. பொருளாதாரமில்லை. பொருளாதாரமில்லாத நிலைமையில் நாம் அதிகமாக ஒன்றுஞ் செய்யமுடியாது,' என்று இலேசாகப் பதில் கூறலாமென்றாலும் அவர்களிடத்தில் நான் என்ன கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேனென்றால் இதர மந்திரிகளை இதர இலாக்காக்களில் சிக்கனஞ் செய்யச்சொல்லி, சுகாதார விஷயத்தில் நாளுக்கு நாள் வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை அதிகப்படுத்திவர வேண்டியது அவசியம். பிற நாடுகளைக் கவனித்துப்பார்க்குங் காலத்தில் அங்கே வியாதிகள் குறைந்து கொண்டேவருகின்றன. அங்கே மரண விகிதம் நாளுக்கு நாள் குறைந்துவருகின்றது. அங்கே ஜனங்களுடைய சுகாதாரம் தேகபலம் ஆரோக்கியம் மிகவும் அதிகப்பட்டு வருகின்றது. நம் நாட்டிலும் பிற நாடுகளிலிருப்பது போன்ற சுகாதார நிலைமை ஏற்படவேண்டும். அம்மாதிரி நிலைமை ஏற்படக்கூடிய திட்டம் போடும்படி நான் மந்திரி அவர்களிடத்தில் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" மேனாட்டில் அதிகச்செலவு செய்து சுகாதாரத்தை அடைந்துவருகிறார்கள். அங்கு குறைந்த விலைக்கு பொருள்கள் கிடைக்கிறதில்லை. ஆகையினால் அதிகச்செலவு செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. நம் நாட்டிலோ எவ்வளவோ பொருள்கள் குறைந்த விலைக்குக் கிடைக்கின்றன. அதிக செலவிற்கு இடந்தரக்கூடிய நிலைமையிலில்லை. ஆகவே நம்முடைய ' Standard of life '

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மிகவும் கீழ்த்தரமாக இருக்கிறது. வாழ்க்கைத் திட்டம் அதிக மேலானதென்று சொல்லமுடியாது. நம்முடைய வாழ்க்கைத் திட்டம் குறைந்த அளவாக இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் குறைந்த அளவிலே நம் நாட்டில் பொருள்கள் குறைந்த விலைக்குக் கிடைக்கின்றன. நம்முடைய பழக்க வழக்கங்கள் சீர்திருத்தம் அடையவேண்டியிருக்கின்றன. இந்தப் பழக்கவழக்கங்களைச் சீர்திருத்தும்பொருட்டு இந்த சுகாதார இலாகாவில் மேன்மேலும் அவர்கள் கையாண்டுவரும் முறைகள் அதிகரித்து வரவேண்டும். அதற்காக மந்திரி அவர்கள் போதுமான பணத்தை ஒதுக்கி வைக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம். இப்பொழுது பழைய முறைகளை அவர்கள் கையாண்டு வருகிறார்கள். ஆதிகாலத்திலே ஸ்தாபிக்கப்பட்ட திட்டமே இன்றளவும் நடைபெற்று வருகின்றது. அது முற்றும் சீர்திருத்தமடைய எண்ணுவது மிகவும் அவசியமென்றுதான் நான் நினைக்கிறேன்.

" தற்பொழுது ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் ஹெல்த் ஆபீஸர்கள் (**Health Officers**) ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். சுகாதார உத்தியோகஸ்தர் ஒரு ஆபீஸர் ஜில்லா முழுவதும் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணஞ் செய்யவேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. ஒரு உத்தியோகஸ்தர் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணஞ் செய்தால் ஒவ்வொரு நகரத்திற்கும், ஒவ்வொரு தாலூகாவுக்கும், ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திற்கும் செல்லவேண்டி ஏற்பட்டால் **365** நாட்கள் போதா. அங்கங்கே அவர்களுக்குக் கீழ்ப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகள் அதிகமாயிருக்கவேண்டும். கீழ்ப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளை ஜாக்கிரதையாக மேற்பார்வை பார்க்கவேண்டும். அநேக உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் மேற்பார்வை பார்ப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. கீழ்ப்பட்ட உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் செவ்வனே சுகாதார வேலைகளை நிறைவேற்றுவதாகக் காணப்படவில்லை. இவ்வாறிருக்கும் நிலைமையில் இந்த இலாகா பூராவையும் வேண்டிய அளவு சீர்திருத்தஞ் செய்யவேண்டும்; புனருத்தாரணஞ் செய்துதான் தீரவேண்டும். இல்லை என்றால் எவ்வளவு பணம் இந்த இலாகாவில் செலவு செய்துவருகிறோமோ அதில் நாலணா ஐந்தணாவுக்கு மேல் பிரதிபிரயோஜனம் கிடைப்பதில்லை. தீர ஆராய்ச்சி செய்து, நிபுணர்களைக்கொண்டோ அல்லது அவர்களுக்கிருக்கும் அனுபவத்தைக்கொண்டோ இந்த இலாகாவைப் புனருத்தாரணஞ் செய்யவேண்டியது மிகவும் அவசியம். ஆதித்திராவிடர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய சேரிகளைப் பார்த்தால் கண்ணீர் விடவேண்டியதாய் வருகிறது. மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு இந்தச் சேரியில் வசிப்பவர்களிடத்தில் மிகவும் அளவிலாத அன்பும் பக்ஷமும் இருந்து வருகின்றது. இந்தச் சேரிகளில் ஒரு காரியம் நடைபெறவில்லை என்று தெரிந்தவுடன் அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும் முயற்சிக்கும் ஊக்கத்திற்கும் அளவில்லை. அவ்வாறிருந்தபோதிலும் தற்பொழுதிருந்து வரும் நிலைமை பழைய காலத்திலிருந்து வந்த நிலைமையைப்போல் தான் குறைவுடைய இருந்து வருகிறது.

" முஸ்லீம் வகுப்பினர்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், அவர்களுடைய பழக்க வழக்கங்கள் சுகாதாரத்திற்குச் சாதகமாகத் தோன்றவில்லை. அவர்களிடையே உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் பிரத்தியேகமாகப் பெண் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை ஏற்படுத்திப் பிரசாரஞ் செய்யவேண்டும். ஒவ்வொரு நகரத்திலும் கிராமத்திலும் போய் அவர்களிடத்திலிருக்கும் சீர்கேடான கொடிய பழக்க வழக்கங்களை அப்புறப்படுத்தும்படி புத்தி புகட்டவேண்டியது அவசியம். இன்னும் கோஷா வழக்கம் இருந்து வருகிறது. ஆகையினால் ஆண்களைக்கொண்டு அதாவது ஆண் சுகாதார உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் மூலம் ஒன்றுஞ் செய்ய முடியாது. இந்தச் சென்னை நகரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் நாம் செய்யக்கூடிய காரியங்கள் பலவாருக இருக்கின்றன. ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் ஒவ்வொரு தாலூகாவை பல கிராமங்கள் கொண்ட சுகாதார வட்டங்களாகப் பிரித்து, அந்தந்த வட்டங்களுக்கு ஏற்படுத்தக்கூடிய உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் இன்னின்ன வேலை செய்து தீரவேண்டுமென்று ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும். இன்னின்ன வேலைகள் செய்கிறார்களென்பதற்கு ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் ரிப்போர்ட்டு அனுப்பவேண்டும். அந்த ரிப்போர்ட்டுகளை

ஹெல்த் ஆபீஸர் நன்றாக **scrutinize** செய்து பார்க்கவேண்டும். அவர்களுக்குக் கீழ் வேலைபார்க்கும் இந்த வட்டங்களிலுள்ள சுகாதார உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் நன்றாகவேலை செய்கிறார்களா என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். இந்த முறையில் **intensive work** (ஊக்கமாய் ஜரூரான வேலை) செய்தால், நம்முடைய சுகாதார நிலைமையில் மிகவும் அதிகமான சீர்திருத்தமடைவோம், முன்னேற்றமடைவோம், என்று எண்ணுகிறேன். இத்துடன் என்னுடைய சிற்றுரையை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, I should be excused for not speaking in Tamil which is my mother-tongue. The reason is that the subject I have to deal with is of such a technical nature that I will not be in a position to speak on the subject with sufficient clearness, so that I might bring home the points to the Hon. Minister for Public Health. Sir, it is very well-known that the Public Health Bill as recently passed by this House has already become law; and it will be put into operation throughout this Province very soon. Even before this, a certain Government Order was promulgated by the Hon. Minister for Public Health affecting the tanning industry of this country. The Government Order purported to treat the tannery effluent as it is called, i.e., the liquid that is thrown out after it is used in the tannery. In this connexion, the Government promulgated an order and communicated it to almost all the tanning interests of this Province which are more or less segregated in certain centres such as Bangalore, Peranampet, Pallavaram, Bezwada, Ellore and other places which are even outside this Province. But we are not concerned with the Nizam's Dominions or the Mysore State; we are more concerned with our province here. It is no doubt very important that the question of public health has to be kept in view in making such an order. It is a matter of supreme importance to us; but it should not be forgotten that it has to be looked at both from a practical and from a scientific point of view. In the first place, what I regret to find is that no attempt has been made to study the question as it is studied in Europe. The reason is this: Europe is a highly industrialized country as compared to India; and if this problem of the tannery effluent has been handled in that country, the same system has to be followed here, though not with the same amount of rigour. In the first place, in my opinion, the problem does not arise here in the same sense or in the same manner in which it does in the West. Those countries are highly industrialized countries; they are highly crowded countries, where civic consciousness and public health have advanced very considerably. And if things that are available in the West are to be imported wholesale into India, they may not suit us for the simple reason that in India the scorching sun of this country is one of the greatest disinfectants that we have ever known. That should be enough to solve our difficulty here; and the vast areas that we have here lying barren, are a very great facility to the industrialists.

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7 p.m. "But even there, Sir, I am asking whether the question was really examined from that point of view. The Government have their Leather Research Chemist. Has he contributed anything towards the discovery of any chemical for the treatment of tannery effluent? The discovery, if it can be so called, is that there is a product that has been invented by a foreign concern, a German concern, which is importing it into India and has been trying to popularize it with the aid of its own literature and the Leather Research Chemist says that the tanners can concentrate all the tannery effluent into a concentration tank, treat it with lime and the particular product which he calls 'Perchloron,' and then the whole thing becomes clear. I am asking the Hon. Minister to tell us whether he had had any report from the Leather Research Chemist as to whether he has analysed it scientifically and whether it is not possible for him to discover some such chemical with which the precipitation of suspended matter would have been achieved. I would have expected him to have tackled the question scientifically and to have placed the fruits of his researches before us. The problem is the treatment of tannery effluent where much of the organic matter remains suspended and all that we aim at is to allow it to precipitate in order to separate the clear liquid from the suspended matter. I myself wrote to the Leather Research Chemist whether he has carried out any research on these lines, whether he has experimented with the newly advertized product and whether he has himself seen it used in any of the tanneries. Unfortunately there was no reply, but long afterwards he wrote to say that he was on tour and that on his return, he would reply to the points raised. Even that reply has not yet reached me. The reason why I am pointing this out to you is this, Sir, that, as he was really employed to go into such questions, it was his primary duty to have analysed it from a scientific point of view and to have placed the results before us and, instead of that, he is saying that there is an imported material available which could be used for this purpose. Apart from this, I should ask whether he has also studied this question from the other point of view."

MR. SPEAKER:—"From the point of view of public health?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is a matter of public health, Sir, though in developing my arguments, I may probably encroach upon the industrial side of the question also.

"If the whole question had been studied and examined in the light of conditions obtaining in the West, instead of merely suggesting a much adversed chemical for use for this particular purpose which any layman could have done, much light would have been thrown on it. In fact, since the Government Order was received, I have myself investigated into the question and have

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found out that there is a very reliable British firm in Manchester, Spence Peter and Son, Limited, who are supposed to be the best authority on the question of sewage and effluents in Europe and they have evolved a system which accomplishes the same thing at one-sixth of the cost involved according to the recommendations of the Leather Research Chemist. It has to be remembered that the money that has been spent is not at all realized from the stocks produced. Money that is spent on the effluent goes through the water channels and when it flows through the water channels, it means that it is all going to waste. The industry will have no objection if the money that is spent is regained in the form of the material that is produced, but if it is wasted merely on the effluent that goes out of the tannery, it means that he should minimise it to the lowest possible extent. I have got it on authority that as a result of the investigations, the method evolved by the British firm can tackle the problem at one-sixth of the cost that is likely to be incurred if we are to indulge in the system recommended by the Leather Research Chemist.

" We are faced with three great dangers. What is recommended is a foreign product, the secret of which is known to that manufacturer alone. If that product is going to be used at the instance of the Governmeut it will mean discrimination, for they are backing it up by means of their order and discrimination is a thing that no Government should follow. If the hon. Members feel a doubt as to the applicability of that term to this particular case, I would only ask them to visualize the position, if the Government were to say that for washing purposes a certain brand—the Sunlight soap—only should be used, when there are others in the market, whose efficacy they have not gone into and which they have not analysed. What will it be if you base your recommendation merely after a study of the literature of the manufacturers? Will it not be discrimination in favour of the manufacturers of that soap? I say, it is for the Government merely to achieve their purpose; the achievement should not be of such a nature that it will support or back up any individual manufacturer much less a foreign manufacturer and much more less a German firm. This, I submit, is a great weakness in this order.

" Then, Sir, what does this discrimination lead to? It leads to exploitation as a result of the weapon that you have placed in the hands of the foreign concern; for if it is made obligatory on our part to use that particular patented product, the danger is that he can exploit it to any extent he pleases. That is the position because the Government Order itself gives preference to that particular product and other people who may engage in it and compete with that manufacturer are effectively shut out by this order. Is exploitation to be encouraged in the industrial advancement of our country? We have already been bled white

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and my blood boils when I think of the extent to which our industries have been exploited by such foreign manufacturers."

MR. SPEAKER:—" But I am afraid it is the Industries Minister that could reply to these points."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is the Government Order that has brought in these troubles upon our industries. Were it not for it, I would have no reason to take up this question under this Demand.

" It is an exploitation and the extent of the exploitation can be imagined when I say that ruin and destruction stare us in the face of the industry. I should have been very happy if the effects had been gone into by the Hon. Minister, more especially, when we are under the shadow of new taxation Bills. It is no exaggeration to say that the amounts that may be collected by the foreign company they are backing up will overshadow even the amount of tax that is proposed to be collected from these poor tanners. Every one of the tanners will have to pay a certain sum of money far beyond the proportion that he can set apart for this purpose, if he has to make a decent margin of profit in his enterprise. So that from the point of view of the tanners, this will bring ruin to their trade. As I have already explained, it does not admit of competition and at the same time the door has not been kept open for an investigation into it by the Leather Research Chemist as to what method is to be followed in the matter of purification of the tannery effluent. My humble opinion is that this question need not at all be insisted upon in such stringent and strict manner in our country. But having been raised, it behoves the Chemist to study the systems prevailing in other countries so that a better solution may be found.

" In supporting the cut motion I need not be supposed to criticize the Public Health policy of the Government at all; I entirely agree with the provisions of the Bill but I am only pointing out this particular question to show that the industry has been dealt with in the name of public health in such a manner as to bring about its ruin and I thought I should bring home to the Government the importance of carrying on research and investigating and finding out a product for this purpose. I would request the Hon. the Minister to re-consider this point and not to think that the experts ought to be the last persons to give advice to the Government. They have got such abstract ideas and they are so obsessed with their own ideas that there is no room in them for original thinking. After all, what is it that the Research Chemist has done? What is it that he himself has investigated and has brought to be adopted by us? On the contrary he has merely acted like the post office, and after studying the literature of that product throws it upon our head and it amounts to penalizing the industry.

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" I have explained what the difference is and I submit it will be cruel on the part of the Government to ask the tanners to throw such large sums of money on a thing which merely flows out. I think, Sir, that many memorials have been submitted to the Government in this matter and copies of these have also been sent to me. One important thing is that the tanners feel that in a measure which affects them so vitally, the Government should have called for information and opinion from various interests. If they had only consulted the Skins and Hides Merchants Association—and they are the people who should have been consulted—and if their opinion had been asked for, they would have willingly co-operated with the Government. I am not in a position to understand the haste with which they have promulgated the order.

" The next point is that the Government had no right to issue the order. It will be remembered that the Hon. the Minister for Public Health said a few moments ago that the construction of drains was more important than the construction of buildings themselves. If no drainages are provided, how could the tanner dispose of the effluent? He can only get rid of it within the limits of his own land. Before the tanner is asked to adopt a scientific basis for disposing of the effluent, I submit it is a primary duty of the Government to introduce a comman drainage system and if that is done, the question is solved. The standpoint of the Research Chemist is absolutely wrong. The evil effect that the odour is calculated to produce is not due to the inherent nature of the liquid itself; but it is a thing that arises out of an entirely different thing, namely, stagnation of the tannery effluent. When the cause is stagnation the Government will have to tackle the question from that point of view by introducing a general system of drainage and not by trying to penalize people and asking them to take a particular course the result of which will be the same stagnation once again. Supposing he undertakes this system and allows water to be stored in a particular concentration tank the result will be stagnation once more. It will be the same odour and the same trouble, but no solution of the difficulties."

7-15 p.m.

SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" అధ్యక్షా మహాశయా, మశూచి ఇప్పుడు మదరాసు నగరములో చెలరేగియున్నది. చిత్తూరు మొదలగు ప్రాంతములలో కూడా వ్యాపించియున్నది. ఇట్టి సమయములో మశూచి నివారణోపాయమును గూర్చి కొంచెము చెప్పవలెనని తలచుచున్నాను.

" దీనికి ప్రస్తుతము గవర్నమెంటువారు చేయుచున్న పద్ధతి టీకాలు వేయుటయని అందరును ఎఱిగియే యున్నారు. టీకాలపై నమ్మకమింకను తీవ్రముగా వ్యాపించియే యున్నది. ఈ పద్ధతి స్కూళ్లలోను, కాలేజీలలోను, హాస్పత్రులలోను కాకుండా, Workshops లోను, Factories లోను ప్రతి చోటను వ్యాపించియున్నది. ఈ

[Sri V. Venkatasubbayya] [25th March 1939

టీకాలు రాకపూర్వము ప్రజలు ఆరోగ్యముగాను, సుఖముగానుయుండి నూరు సంవత్సరములు జీవించి సుఖముగా కాలము గడుపుచుండిరి. ఈ నిర్బంధ టీకాల పద్ధతికి మన దేశమున కంత్యకాలము వచ్చినట్లుగానే తలంపవచ్చును. దేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యము కొఱకై సర్వమునకు తెగించి ఎందుకును వెనుదీయక పోరాడిన భారత జాతి ఈ టీకాల పద్ధతియొక్క దాడినేమాత్రమును సహింపజాలదు.

"అందులోను, మగవారని లేక, ఆడువారని లేక, రోగులని పసి పాపలని లేక అందరికిని టీకాలువేసి వారికి దేహ స్వాతంత్ర్యము లేకుండా బలవంతముగా వేయుచు ప్రజలయొక్క స్వాతంత్ర్యము నరికట్టిన ఈ టీకాల పద్ధతి నిక యోగ్యకొని యుండజాలదు. ఇప్పుడు ముఖ్యముగా అంటువ్యాధి తగిలియున్న కాలములో ఈ టీకాల పద్ధతి మరీ ఎంత యపాయకరమో చెప్పెదను :—

"పబ్లిక్ హెల్తు బిల్లు ఈ మధ్యనే ఇచట అమలులోనికి వచ్చినది. అందులో మంచి గుణములు లేకపోలేదు. దానివల్ల ప్రజలయొక్క ఆరోగ్యము అభివృద్ధి కాదని నే ననను. దేశములోని ప్రజలందరికిని ఆరోగ్యాభివృద్ధికి ఈ బిల్లు కారణమగునని నా నమ్మకము. కాని అందులోనున్న 76 వ శెక్షన్ క్లాజు 2 (బి) యొక్క అపాయమునుగూర్చి చెప్పుచున్నాను. దానివల్ల భయమేమనగా small-pox మొదలైన అంటు వ్యాధులు దేశములో ప్రబలముగనున్నప్పుడు అట్టి వ్యాధులు రాకుండా, ప్రజలు ఆరోగ్యవంతులైయున్నప్పటికి అంతకు పూర్వం ఎన్ని మారులు టీకాలు వేయించుకొనియున్నను తిరుగ టీకాలు వేయించుకొనవలెను. మశూచి మొదలగు అంటు వ్యాధులు వచ్చినప్పుడు వీనిని తప్పించుకొని సామాన్యముగా ప్రజలందరును ఆరోగ్యముగా నుండవలెనన్న పరిశుభ్రముగానుండుట, ఎంత ఆహారము కావలెనో అంతే భుజించుట, పరిశుభ్రమైన వస్త్రములు ధరించుట, ఇల్లువాకిళ్లు శుభ్రముగా నుంచుకొనుట, వీధులు, గ్రామము, మంచి నీరు ఇవన్నియు శుభ్రముగా నుంచుకొనుట, ఇవన్నియు మిక్కిలి యవసరమని వారికి తెలియును కాని ఇదివరకెన్నడును లేనట్టి క్రొత్త యధికారములీ 76 వ శెక్షన్ 2 (బి) వ క్లాజులో యున్నందున ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులను ప్రజలును మోసపోయి ఒక దురభిప్రాయమునకు లోబడుదురు. టీకాలవల్ల ఇదివరకుకంటె సులభముగాను, త్వరలోను, తేలికగాను ఆరోగ్యమును పొందవచ్చునియు, అంటు వ్యాధులు త్వరలో పోగొట్టుకొనవచ్చుననియు వారు దురభిప్రాయపడుదురు. దీనిని గుఱించి **Sanitary Measures in India** అనే యొక గవర్నమెంటు రిపోర్టున్నది. అందులో ఏమని వ్రాసియున్నారో చదివెదను :—

'Ten years' statistics afford no evidence that vaccination affects the usual epidemic course of the disease (Smallpox) and hence, this fact, in face of the extensive vaccination works of the present and past years appears to lead to the conclusion, that in its epidemic form, Smallpox must be met by improving the sanitary condition of the people.'

"దీనిలో స్పష్టముగా చెప్పినారు. '10 సంవత్సరములనుండియు వ్రాయబడిన లెక్కల ప్రకారం టీకాల పద్ధతివల్ల అసాధారణముగ ఒక దండువలె మశూచి వ్యాపించు కాలములో దాని మార్గము ఏమియు మారలేదనియు, మశూచి ఒక వరదవలె వచ్చినప్పుడు టీకాల పద్ధతిని వాడుకొనక పురపారిశుధ్యమును శుచి, మితాహార విహారములను ప్రజలందు వృద్ధిచేయుటే మేలనియు, అట్టిదాని నెదుర్కొనవలెననియు, వర్తమానకాలము

లోను గడచిన సంవత్సరములలోను విస్తారముగ జరిగించిన టీకాల ఉద్యమమువలన తేలుచున్నది. దీనిని నమ్ముకొనుటయే మంచిదని ' గవర్నమెంటు రిపోర్టులోనే యున్నది.

" ఈ పెనుభూతము వచ్చినప్పుడు పరీక్ష చేసి చూచినట్లయితే టీకాలు వేయించుకున్నవారినే వందలకొలది, వేలకొలది ప్రజలను దీని పొట్టను బెట్టుకొనుచున్నట్లు తెలియగలదు. అది చేయు నాశనమున కంతులేదు. ఏమియు జబ్బు లేనివారికి ఈ టీకాలువేసి ఇంకను ప్రజలలో ఆ వ్యాధిని వ్యాపింపజేయుట అన్యాయము. Dr. Hadwen గారు దీనినిగూర్చి ఏమి చెప్పినారో దానినికూడా చదివెదను :—

'Every epidemic which has occurred began with a vaccinated person. The first cases have always been among the vaccinated and the majority of sufferers have always been vaccinated, and instead of a Vaccination Act, we ought to have an Act to protect us against those who are vaccinated.'

" This has been written by Dr. Hadwen of Gloucester, M.D., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S దీనిని డాక్టరు హడ్వెన్‌గారు వ్రాసినారు. వారు ప్రశిద్ధమైన వైద్యులు. వారిని డాక్టరు రాజన్ మంత్రిగారుకూడా ఎరుగుదురు. వారికి వీరికి మంచి స్నేహమునికూడా విన్నాను. కాని ఈ విషయములో మాత్రము వీరి అభిప్రాయాలను మాత్రము మార్చుటకు వారికిగాని వారియభిప్రాయములను మార్చుటకు వీరికిగాని సాధ్యముకాక పోయింది.

" ఎచ్చటనైనను అంటు వ్యాధి epidemic form లో వచ్చినప్పుడు ఆ ప్రాంతములో టీకాలు వేసుకొన్నవారికే మరూచి ఎక్కువగా తగులునుగాని టీకాలు వేసుకోనివారికి అంతగా తగులదు. ఈ విషయము విపులంగా మొన్న ఇచ్చట నేను వేసిన ప్రశ్నలకు బదులు చెప్పుచు ప్రభుత్వమువారు తెలపిచ్చిన లెక్కలవల్లనే స్పష్టమగుచున్నది. అయితే అంటు వ్యాధి తగిలినపుడు దానినుండి త్వరలో విముక్తియగుట ఎట్లని ప్రజలు అడుగుతారు. ' అంటు వ్యాధి ఒకచోట యున్నదని తెలియగానే టీకాల ఆఫీసరు వస్తారు. పదివేలు, ఇరవైవేల టీకాల మందు సీసాల నుపయోగించినారు. త్వరగా ఒక నెలలోనే పూర్తిగా మన స్వాధీనములోనికి వచ్చినది. ఆ ప్రాంతములలో అంటు వ్యాధి పోయినదని రిపోర్టులలో వ్రాస్తారే? అది అబద్ధమా ' అంటారు. నేను దానినికూడా కాదనను. Vaccination staff వచ్చింది నిజమే 10,000 టీకారసం సీసాలో 20,000 సీసాలో ఖర్చు పెట్టినది నిజమే. ఒక నెల రోజులలో స్వాధీనమైన మాట నిజమే. కాని అది టీకాలు వేయుటవల్ల పోలేదు. సామాన్యంగా ఈ అంటు వ్యాధి వచ్చినంతనే ప్రజలు భయపడి అంతకు ముందున్న దురలవాట్లను పోగొట్టుకొని శరీరమును శుభ్రముగా నుంచుకొనుట, కావలసినంత ఆహారమునే భుజించుట, తమ ఇళ్లను, వీథులను, పరిశుభ్రముగా నుంచుకొనుట, మిగతా అన్ని విషయములలోను జాగ్రత్తగా యుందురు. ఇట్లు చేయుటలో సర్కారువారు పంపించిన శానిటరీ ఆఫీసర్లుకూడా సహాయపడతారు. అందులోనే అచ్చటి అంటు వ్యాధులు నివారణమగుచున్నవిగాని టీకాలవల్ల కాదు. టీకాలు వేయకుండా సులభమార్గములనే యవలంభించియుండినయెడల అంతమంది ప్రజలు నాశనము కాకుండా, అంత జననష్టము లేకుండా ఆ వ్యాధి ఇంకా త్వరలో నివారణ అయియుండునని చెప్పగలను. ' ఇంతమంది డాక్టర్లున్నారు. వారుకూడా ఇటులనే చెప్పుచున్నారు గదా, అంటు వ్యాధి వచ్చినదనగానే అనేకమంది డాక్టర్లు రాత్రియనక పగలనక శ్రమపడి ఎంతో ధనము వెచ్చించుచున్నారే టీకాలవల్లనే. అంటు.వ్యాధి నివారణ కానప్పుడు మన

డాక్టర్లు మాత్రమెందు కట్లా చెప్పరు' రని యడిగెదరు. వారట్లు చెప్పటకు కారణ మేమనగా వారు చదువుకొన్న విద్య అటువంటిది. ఈ సందర్భములో డాక్టర్ జోసెఫ్ స్వాన్ గారు తమ 'The Vaccination Problem' అనే పుస్తకములో ఇట్లు వ్రాసినారు.

'The doctors are all caught young. In their student days they imbibe the dogmatic teaching of their professors in regard to the great discovery of the immortal Tinner as the purest milk of medical science. Anti-vaccinist arguments are pooh-poohed, and anti-vaccinist books are excluded from their college libraries. They are led to suppose that vaccination is one of the most unquestioned and unquestionable dogmas in the world of medicine.'

"కాబట్టిన వారా ప్రకారము నమ్ముతారు. ఆ ప్రకారమే చేస్తారు. ఒక్క డాక్టరైనా గానీ తనకు Vaccination పై నమ్మకము లేదని చెప్పినచో వానిని సర్కారు ఉద్యోగములో నుంచెదరా? ఎంతో డబ్బు ఈ vaccination మీద ఖర్చు పెట్టు చున్నారు. ఆ ఖర్చు న్యాయమైనదో అన్యాయమైనదో ప్రభుత్వము వారిచ్చిన స్టేటు మెంటువల్లనే తెలియుచున్నది. నేను ప్రభుత్వము వారినడిగిన ప్రశ్నకు వారిచ్చిన జావాబేమనగా 'గడచిన నాలుగు సంవత్సరములలోను చెన్న నగరములో మొత్తం 3,836 మందికి మశూచి వచ్చినది. 2,322 మంది అందులో టీకాలు వేయించు కున్నవారు. అనగా నూటికి 60 మంది vaccination అయినవారికే మశూచి తగిలినది. వ్యాధి తగిలినవారిలో 950 మంది చనిపోయారు. అనగా నూటికి 25 మంది చనిపోయినారు. Vaccination లేకపోతే నూటికి 60 మందికి అంటు వ్యాధి రాదు. నూటికి 25 మంది చనిపోరు. సామాన్యంగా ఎన్ని యిళ్లలోనో అమ్మవారు పోసుచుండునుగాని, నలుగురికి తగిలితే ఒకడువంతున చనిపోతారా? ఈ ప్రకారం చనిపోతుంటే ఇంక టీకాలవల్ల లాభమేమి."

Dr. M. J. SAMUEL:—"On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order in almost leading an anti-vaccination campaign in this House? For the last 15 or 20 minutes I have been very carefully hearing him. He criticized the principles of the Public Health Act in connexion with vaccination and he is almost propagating an anti-vaccination campaign."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"He said that the measures adopted by the Government in regard to vaccination are ruinous to public health and therefore he is talking about Public Health."

Dr. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Is he supporting the cut motion?"

Mr. SPEAKER:—"He is submitting to the Government that these measures which they have adopted in regard to vaccination should be stopped in future in the interests of public health."

Sri V. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"ఇది చెన్న నగరపు లెక్క. చెన్న రాష్ట్రము మొత్తంమీద చూచినట్లయితే ఇంకా ఘోరం. 100 కి 26, 30, 38 మంది చనిపోవుచున్నారు. 1934 మొదలు 1936 వ సంవత్సరము వరకు ఆప్రకారం చనిపోవుచున్నారు. ఈ సందర్భములో రెండు మాటలు మాత్రము చదివి ముగిస్తాను."

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(Sri Venkatasubbayya proceeded to read from a book.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I allow nothing to be read. You can refer to the name of the book and the page and finish with it. There have been already numerous quotations."

* SRI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"The author of the book is Joseph P. Swan. I will take only a minute."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will please resume his seat."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I may inform the hon. Member that I have got a copy of the book and I know its contents."

* V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB 7–30 p.m.
BAHADUR:—"மேன்மை தங்கிய **Speaker** அவர்களே, சுகாதார வசதி மனிதராய் பிறந்த ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் இருக்கவேண்டியது அவசியமாகும். சுகாதாரத்தைப்பற்றி இம்மாகாண மக்களுக்குப் பிரசாரஞ்செய்வதைக்கட்டாயப்படுத்தவேண்டியது இந்த மாகாண கவர்ன்மெண்டாருடைய குறிப்பாக, சுகாதார டிபார்ட்மெண்டாருடைய கடமையாகுமென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். இந்த மாகாண சுகாதார விஷயத்திற்காக ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் பணத்தைச் சரிவர சுகாதார டிபார்ட்மெண்டார் செலவு செய்யவில்லை என்பதைச் சுகாதார மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். கிராமாந்திரங்களில் அவர்கள் போதிய அளவு சுகாதார விஷயத்திற்குப் பணஞ் செலவு செய்யவில்லை என்றுநான் சொல்லுகிறேன். பட்டணங்களில் ஏராளமான பொருளைச் சுகாதார விஷயத்திற்காகச் செலவு செய்கிறார்கள். சென்னை நகரத்தில் ஒரு பர்லாங்கு தூரத்திற்குள் ஸர்க்கார் டஜன் கணக்கான சுகாதார இடங்களை ஏற்படுத்தி ஏராளமான பணத்தைச் செலவிடுகிறார்கள். மீதி இருக்கும் பணத்தை எல்லாம் ஜில்லாக்களில் முதன்மையாக உள்ள ஊர்களுக்குச் செலவிடுகிறார்கள். கிராமாந்திரங்களில் சுகாதார விஷயத்திற்குச் செலவழிக்கவில்லை. மேன்மை தங்கிய சுகாதார மந்திரி அவர்கள் திருநெல்வேலிக்கு விஜயஞ் செய்தபோது மேலப்பாளையம் பஞ்சாயத்துப் போர்டுக்கு வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டு அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு லெட்டர் எழுதி இருந்தது. மேற்படி மினிஸ்டர் அவர்கள் யாது காரணத்தினாலோ அங்கு விஜயஞ் செய்யவுமில்லை. அந்த லெட்டருக்குப் பதிலெழுதவுமில்லை. இரண்டு காரணங்களினால் அவர்கள் அங்கே விஜயஞ் செய்யாதிருந்திருக்கலாம். ஒன்று அது கிராமந்தானே அதற்கு ஏன் போகவேண்டுமென்று எண்ணி இருந்திருக்கலாம். இரண்டாவதாக மேலப்பாளையத்தில் இருக்கும் முப்பதினாயிரம் ஜனத்தொகையில் இருபத்தையாயிரம் பேர்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள். நாம் அங்கே போனால் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஏதாவது செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டி வருமென்று நினைத்து விஜயஞ் செய்யாதிருந்திருக்கலாமென்று நினைக்க ஹேதுவாக இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது கிராமாந்திர ஜனங்களின் கெதி எப்படி இருக்கிறதென்றால் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் போதிய அளவு சுகாதாரம் கவனிக்கப்படவில்லை. சாதாரணமாய் கெற்ப ஸ்திரீகளுக்கு அந்தந்தக் காலங்களில் ஏற்படக்கூடிய வியாதிகளை அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துக் காட்டவும், அதற்குப் போதிய வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவும் ஹெல்த் விசிட்டர்கள் போய் அவர்களால் கவனிக்கப்படவில்லை. கெற்ப ஸ்திரீகள் குழந்தை பெறுங் காலத்தில் வேண்டிய ஒத்தாசை செய்ய கிராமாந்திரங்களுக்கு **midwife** கள் ஏற்படுத்தவில்லை. கிராமாந்திரங்களில் சுகாதாரமாயிருக்கவேண்டியதற்காக ஜனங்களுக்குப் போதிய அளவு சுகாதாரக் கல்வி போதிக்கப்பட்டு

[V. S. T. Shaik Mansoor Tharaganar Sahib Bahadur] [25th March 1939

பாவில்லை. எங்கே பார்த்தாலும் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் டூரிங் சினிமாக்கள் ஏற்படுத்தி சுகாதாரத்தைப்பற்றி ஜனங்களுக்குப் போதிய அளவு பிரசாரம் செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

* Dr. M. J. SAMUEL:—"I want to raise only two points n this Demand, viz., leprosy relief and malaria control.

"In the year 1937, in April, there was a Government Order assed to formulate schemes for giving relief to the lepers in his Presidency. They appointed a special staff—a special leprosy fficer, five sub-assistant surgeons, one compounder and five nursing rderlies. I want to know from the Government whether this taff has been doing any work in the Ceded districts. I come rom the district of Kurnool where there is lot of leprosy in one r two taluks, which is increasing every year. Some ten years ack when I visited some villages in Nandikotkur taluk, I found here were three lepers in a village called Dudyala. Now my riend, Mr. Nagappa, says there are 84 lepers. I would like to now whether this Government have taken any statistics about the pread of this disease. I understood through the reports that special officer has been appointed in Salem district and another pecial medical officer to go about and treat these diseases. But want to know from the Public Health Minister whether any fforts are undertaken to find out or to collect statistics as to ow this disease is rapidly increasing in Kurnool. I know, Sir, non-official agency started a couple of years back a small clinic n Kurnool to treat these diseases. They collected some money y way of subscriptions and they carried on the work for two ears; but, because of the indifference and apathy shown by the listrict Medical Officer and the district board they had to give up he scheme. I only request the Public Health Minister to call for tatistics as to how many lepers there are in Kurnool and do the eedful in the matter.

"Coming to the second point, viz., malaria control, I learn rom the reports that nearly fifteen districts are tackled and ralaria is controlled both by prophylactic and curative measures. also understand that 16,000 pounds of quinine are being distriuted in these districts. I consider that Kurnool is also one of rese very badly malaria-affected districts. Sir, the method of istributing quinine in this district is far from satisfactory. The ealth Inspector is supposed to be in charge of the distribution. [y practical experience shows that this man does not go about ie taluk at the time of the epidemic. He does not distribute uinine to the people who could undertake to distribute it properly. hear that some of the teachers and some social workers are also ndertaking the distribution work. But in my district I find ery few people are entrusted with this work. A few village unsifs are given quinine packets which they never use for ionths and months together and sometimes they had to throw

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them away in the gutters. I request that better methods may be undertaken in this district for the distribution of quinine. I also urge that some of the charitable dispensaries and some of the social workers be entrusted with this beneficent work."

Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur rose to speak.

MR. SPEAKER:—"At this stage?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"A few minutes, Sir. It is a very important matter. It is regarding the water-supply of the City.

MR. SPEAKER:—"You ought to have spoken at an earlier stage. What is the good of coming at a late stage when you want to speak on such an important point? Well, it is an important point. But finish it soon."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is a very important point, Mr. Speaker, I mean the water-supply in the City of Madras. I should like to know from the Hon. Minister what the policy is with regard to this matter. I think he knows that this year on account of the failure of the monsoon there is an acute drought and the citizens of Madras are suffering considerably on account of insufficient water-supply. The Corporation of Madras has restricted the supply to a very large extent so much so that people find it very difficult to get water for their dire necessities, much less for other purposes. This is a very serious problem. The Corporation has reduced the consumption for every day from 19,000 to 14,000 gallons. Even then we do not know how long the existing water in the Red Hills will last before the next monsoons. We cannot say whether the monsoon will break out in a month or two or whether we will have to wait till October or November next. But on account of the insufficient water-supply many a disease has come to stay and smallpox and other fevers are prevalent in the City. The population has been growing, both the city population and the influx of population from the mufassal. This is a metropolis. We are holding our sessions at the seat of the Government, the sessions of both the Houses of the Legislature. Hon. Gentlemen from different parts of the Province come here. In spite of all this I am afraid the Government have not taken up this question seriously although they have helped the Corporation with grants. There is the question of the purchasing of the irrigation rights of the ayacut of the Red Hills lake. There is some legal difficulty. I know the importance of agriculture. It will have to be satisfied with the water-supply. But in my opinion the water-supply to the City is a greater necessity and that for the sake of this need, the irrigation rights of the agriculturists under the ayacut should be purchased. If negotiations are carried properly they will come forward to sell the rights for a sufficient amount. The Government should come forward to purchase the rights so that the water-supply could be

augmented. Sir, the time will soon come when the teeming population will increase further and the City will expand. The City is expanding on all sides, and the population is also increasing. The water-supply will not be adequate four or five years hence. Even for later years, arrangements will have to be made even now so that the water-supply to the City should be commensurate with the requirements of the City and the increasing size of the City and its population. I hope, Sir, the Hon. Minister will realize this. I do not want to state any more arguments in support of this case. I believe it is very necessary; it is the duty of the Government not to leave that matter entirely to the population, saying that that is the work of the Corporation and its lookout. It is the primary duty of the Government of the whole Province, because the City does not belong to the City population alone. It is useful to the population of the City as well as to the rest of the Province and to the Government. And such being the case, I hope, Sir, that the Government will come to the rescue of the Corporation and the people who live in the City as well as those people who comes from different parts of the Province, so far as this water-supply is concerned."

7-45 p.m. * THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, so far hon. Members who have spoken on this Demand have not made any particular criticism with regard to the Health policy of the Government. Whatever issues were raised were more with regard to specific complaints and perhaps inadequate treatment of certain others. As regards the general statements which were made regarding the general level of sanitation, general level of sanitary knowledge, poverty and the consequent insufficiency of food and so on, the Government absolutely agree. They say they will also co-operate with all the people working in the field and will certainly do their best to give relief in the villages. In fact, the whole phase of the Governmental administration to-day is to a large extent to turn from the cities to the villages, and those who have observed the working of this Government will realize that villages loom very large in the eyes of the Government. It should be so naturally. For years they have been neglected and for the first time in history they have come to be recognized as units in our national life which have got to be attended to first. That is a statement made by Mr. Basheer Ahmed and I agree with him that we must employ a large number of health visitors, propagandists and so on and we must make everyone of the Government servants propagandists in the cause of public health and sanitation.

" Rather a long reference was made by Mr. M. Ahmed Batcha with regard to the tanning industry. I just want to tell him in a few words what has been done so far. The very first thing I had to do as soon as I took up office was to attend to this question of

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the tanneries and the nuisance caused to the public on account of them. I inspected a number of tanneries in a number of places, and I must confess that whatever may be the process employed and whatever may be the innocuousness of the contents of the fluid the obnoxious smell is certainly provocative and a nuisance. That being the case, it is in the interests of public health that that nuisance should be remedied. In all countries, where fluvial matter emits an offensive odour as a result of the industrial process, the public health authorities have always insisted that that should be remedied in the interests of public health for which they are responsible. Therefore, the initial responsibility with regard to dealing with this question essentially belongs to the tanneries. In our country this industry has developed and grown up without any relation to the demands of public health. For a number of years our people have established this useful industry in areas where they have been working for a long time. As long as public conscience did not take notice of it, as long as health condition allowed that state of things to continue nobody worried about it. But when knowledge of sanitation and public health improved and hamlets began to grow round those tanneries, the effect of this obnoxious smell was felt by all and they began to complain. Therefore it became obligatory on the part of the Government to see how far this could be remedied. I agree with Mr. Ahmed Batcha that drainage would to a certain extent solve it. But drainage in areas where tanneries have developed is, according to modern ideas of drainage, so costly that no single institution can undertake to do it. For instance, no panchayat board can tackle this question of drainage within the next few decades. Therefore it is not fair to say that this stink should go on till proper drainage is provided in all the areas where the industry is developing.

"I inspected the tannery at Ellore and called together a conference. The conference met and it was agreed that a drainage should be constructed, and at as low a cost as possible. The Sanitary Engineer to the Government and the Director of Public Health submitted a scheme of drainage for that area at a cost of Rs. 30,000. But as soon as this cost was communicated to the tanners, they said that it was too prohibitive for them and that they could pay. The alternative was to ask the municipality to go to the help of the tanneries. The municipality was asked about it, and they said they were willing to share half the burden. But the tanners flatly refused to pay the other half. They said that they would make a contribution of Rs. 5,000 for the purpose. In the circumstances we could not go on with the work, and there the matter rests.

"Then the next thing which the Government tried to do was to see whether any other way could be found to get rid of the smell; Mr. Batcha says that we can do nothing of the sort except

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to store them in a particular place. Quite true. If the collection of water in a particular locality will not affect the people of the neighbouring areas on account of its smell or in any other way, we will have no objection. But unfortunately everybody knows that this fluid emits a smell which is very disagreeable. It may be after some years people who live in this area will get used to it and will not complain. But it does not become on that account a thing that could be smelt with impunity or a thing that would be agreeable. Then the question was whether an easy substitute could be found for it. I would have been very glad if the tanners had employed a chemist instead of having a fling at the Government for what they have done. He would have given an alternative prescription and the remedy would have been easy if a workable proposition had been put before the Government. In the absence of such a move on their part we had to ask our chemist to carry out a number of experiments with a number of drugs. He has done so and has given us a remedy which is according to him fairly cheap. But the question was raised by the tanners whether the information given to them was correct. They challenged the conclusions of our leather chemist. Now that is where the matter stands. They wanted to wait in deputation on the Government. We have agreed to receive the deputation along with our leather chemist. We intend to hold a conference with them for discussing the matter further. I therefore ask Mr. Ahmed Batcha Sahib to direct his energies in the direction of arranging for this conference with his men, and not be content with simply leading the deputation. Let him also bring with him some alternative suggestions."

M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I put it just now."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" This is not a thing which can be treated as an interpellation. Any suggestion in the matter will have to be made by the deputation in the presence of the leather chemist. And after discussion, if it is found that it is a workable proposition, something could be done."

M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I have given the Hon. Minister a proposition. It may . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" No discussion of that nature will be permitted on the floor of the House. It is improper for an hon. Member to sit and speak."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have explained to the House what the Government are willing to do. It is not our desire to kill the industry or do it any harm. If the hon. Member has got any working solution, he may communicate the same

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to the conference. The deputationists may be put in possession of all the facts and if after discussion with them it is possible to arrive at some useful solution, it will be good.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the very ticklish question raised by Mr. Venkatasubbayya, I know he holds to his idea and it is not a question on which I could enter into any debate. But I can say this. Whatever one may say with regard to the statistics, one thing is clear from them, and that is, in the past 75 years this is the year in which we have recorded the lowest number of deaths from smallpox. It is open to Mr. Venkatasubbayya to claim that that result is due to improved sanitation. I do not quarrel with him. I would only add that this result is also due to the renewed efforts on the part of the Government to save lives by some method or other. Therefore the question is not as to which particular method is to be supported and which not. What we have to see in all these things is whether we have been able to stamp out the disease. Then I come to the next proposition, and that is that we have this year the lowest number of deaths from smallpox. In the City of Madras till four weeks ago smallpox was raging frightfully. This report received the attention of the Government. What did we do? We went and inspected all the infectious disease hospitals. They were rather in a bad state. The attention of the Municipal Corporation was drawn to it in a demi-official communication, and action was asked to be taken now. What is the result? Mr. Venkatasubbayya complains that we are vaccinating people indiscriminately. Sir, if his logic is right that more people die of vaccination than of the disease, since we have vaccinated more than two lakhs of people in the City of Madras, I should find at least 25 per cent of them dying by vaccination. But so far nobody seems to have died on this account. The death-rate from smallpox after this intensive vaccination for the last four weeks covering all places particularly the poor men's quarters, Harijan huts, etc.,—I am not talking of ventilated palaces, but of the gutters where our poor live—is the lowest. We achieved this result, I hold, simply because we started an intensive campaign of vaccination. If Mr. Venkatasubbayya is correct, we must have been flooded with death reports. Fortunately it is not so. Therefore in a campaign where we have to face an epidemic, there is no use of saying we can rely on our sanitation. This mass vaccination which successfully brought down the death rate demonstrates beyond doubt that vaccination gives immunity from smallpox. If he still questions the statistics that have been collected and comes to a different conclusion from mine, I am very sorry for the statistics and for him also. The statistics show that the number vaccinated is in lakhs and lakhs and the number not vaccinated is very small. Further, our figures show that the number of unvaccinated people who have died is three times the number of people that have

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been vaccinated. In the face of these statistics, if Mr. Venkatasubbayya draws conclusions which do not bear testimony to the actual facts, I can only feel sorry.

"There is one point which Dr. Samuel raised in regard to leprosy. As a medical man I expect him to be more fully posted up in regard to leprosy work in this Presidency. The Government have—by means of the Special Officer appointed, and the special methods employed—been doing a good deal of work. Centres have been opened in the various districts and leprosy survey is now being carried on in order to arrive at approximate results. He complained about people in Kurnool and about the
.m. conditions of lepers there. It is just to tackle that problem that we are trying to find out methods as to how best we could accommodate these lepers and how best we could eradicate the disease completely. These are under consideration. If Dr. Samuel had noticed the latest development in the leprosy relief work and read the proceedings of the meeting held in the Banqueting Hall the other day, he would have found that we are directing all our energies to the preventive aspect of the disease, and that we are considering under what conditions of health and living in this country the disease could be eradicated. This is rational and this is scientific and I am sure by an approach to this question in this manner we will be better able to reduce the number of lepers than by having a large number of centres. And the treatment of the disease has been put on a scientific basis by classifying them as lepers dangerous to society and those who are not. There is no use talking of people who have been cured at a certain stage. The disease cures itself due to the vitality of the man. Therefore I say that cases of this kind have been taken into account and a classification on a scientific basis has been made to find out the actual number of lepers who are dangerous to society. The danger will be much less to society from the large number of lepers who are collected in large centres; but the greatest danger comes from small groups who are a source of infection to large groups of people. The disease is also mostly found in children. The modern method of tackling this problem is to bring the leprosy among children under effective control. If the leprosy among children is allowed uncontrolled it spreads to the whole society naturally. So the present method of combating this disease is to first eradicate leprosy among children. I hope hon. Members will clearly understand this.

"There is also the question of malaria control. I admit that there could have been some bad people who would have done their work badly. But I know this: that where anti-malarial measures have been taken we have brought the incidence of malaria to a considerably low level. I have now figures to show how much malaria has been brought under control. Besides, we

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e still carrying on malarial investigation in three parts of the :ovince. Experts have been employed there to see to the further ·ogress and how malaria, on a larger scale, could be effectively ·evented commensurate with the general poverty of the country. 'e are carrying on investigation in this direction and before ·o or three years it should be possible to arrange for a complete adication of malaria in this Province. The unfortunate portion it is that it is very expensive to adopt the present methods and .r country cannot afford it. Therefore we have to evolve a .eaper method than what has been done in the past. It is on ese lines that we are working.

" With regard to water-supply to the City of Madras, I do 't find the hon. Gentleman here who spoke about this. I sup- ıse, having himself had the honour of being the Mayor of the adras Corporation, he must be conversant with the question of ıter-supply in the City. This question would not have loomed rge but for the unusual failure of the monsoon this year. But ng before this failure of the monsoon, we realized what the 'ects of a failure of the monsoon would be and there was a nference held between the Government and Corporation wherein e whole matter was thoroughly discussed in the presence of the ıgineers of the Corporation and the Government. Added to r difficulties the decision of the Madras High Court came in ır way and while the City was suffering, the ryots and the riculturists were given a favourable decision by the High Court. ıe conservation of the whole supply of water of the Red Hills nk entirely for the City of Madras was never even thought of fore. I may say for the information of the House that a plan ıs been evolved now (1) to get over the temporary difficulties d (2) to get over the permanent difficulties absolutely and r ever. The temporary work that has been done is to diminish e quantity of supply which is now being rationed and I hope is rationing would carry us till November. In case of partial ilure of rain or there being no rain at all we have proposed dig wells in the tank area in order to tap the subsoil water also d pump it on into the tank itself; and if this is done, it is esti- ıted that it will give an additional supply of water to the tune of e million gallons. That proposal is also now being worked t. Then the second is to put a dam across the river Courteliar d divert a larger quantity of water into the Red Hills tank. nally it is also proposed to purchase the irrigation rights of the ots who have got a right to the supply of water from the ·d Hills tank and thus conserve the whole supply of water of ə tank for the City of Madras only.

" After what I have said, hon. Members may understand that e Government are not sleeping over the matter. On the ntrary we have been too early on the field; we have done our

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best to see that the City is well-supplied with water. If it were at all possible to bring more supply of water to Madras by any other means and if hon. Members would give us some suggestions, the Government will certainly be thankful. The Government have been quite enthusiastic about this and they have done all that is necessary. Those are the points raised in this debate and I hope I have satisfied hon. Members with regard to them.

"With regard to my friend Mr. Mansoor Tharaganar, I will say a few words in Tamil as he does not know English.

"தலைவர் அவர்களே, நாங்கள் அதிகாரத்திற்கு வந்த பிற்பாடு கிராமப்புனருத்தாரண வேலைக்காக இது வரையில் செய்து வந்த வேலையைக் காட்டிலும் அதிகமாகச் செய்வதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்து கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறோமென்பதைத் தங்களுக்குத் தெரிவிக்கிறேன். மருத்துவ விஷயத்திற்குப் போன வருஷம் 180 மருத்துவச்சிகளை கிராமங்களில் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறோம். அதிகாரத்திற்கு வந்த இந்த ஒன்றரை வருஷத்தில் 25 கிராம ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் எல்லாக் கிராமங்களுக்கும் செய்திருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லிவிட முடியாது. சில கிராமங்களில் செய்திருக்கிறோம் சில கிராமங்களில் இன்னும் செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஒரு வருஷத்தில் இவ்வளவு செய்திருக்கிறோமென்பதை அறிந்து கொண்டால் அதிலிருந்து இனிச் செய்ய வேண்டிய வேலை துரிதமாய் நடக்கும் என்ற நம்பிக்கை உண்டாகுமென்பதைப் பற்றி சொல்ல வேண்டியதில்லை. இதை நீங்கள் அறிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டியது அவசியமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன்.

"மேலப்பாளையத்திற்கு நான் ஏதோ பயந்து கொண்டு வராமலிருந்தேனென்று சந்தேகமாக இருக்குமாறு மெம்பர் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். மந்திரிகள் போகுமிடங்களில் எந்த இடத்தையும் பார்ப்பதற்குப் பயங்கிடையாது. சாக்கடைகளையும் கக்கூசுகளையும் அசுத்தமான இடங்களையும் பார்ப்பது தான் என்னுடைய வேலை. எந்த இடத்தையும் பார்க்கச் சித்தமாயிருக்கிறேன். உங்களிடத்தில் வந்து பார்த்துத் தெரிந்து கொள்ள வேண்டிய கடமையுள்ள நான் பயப்படவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. ஒரு ஜில்லாவுக்குப் போயிருக்கும் காலத்தில் ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட நேரத்தில் லிஸ்டில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்ட இடங்களுக்குப் போக வேண்டி இருந்ததால் திடீரென்று ஒரு இடத்திற்கு வரச் சொன்னதினால் அதை சௌகரியமாய் லிஸ்டில் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ள முடியாமல் வரவில்லை. தயவு செய்து தப்பர்த்தஞ் செய்து கொள்ளக்கூடாது.

"கிராமப் புனருத்தாரணத்திற்காகக் கிணறுகள் வெட்டிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். அதற்காக பதினைந்து லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறோமென்று ஞாபகப்படுத்துகிறேன். கிராமங்களில் சென்ற ஒரு வருஷத்தில் இந்தத் திட்டம் அமுலுக்கு வந்த பிற்பாடு அறுபத்து நாலு கிணறுகள் வெட்டப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இப்பொழுது 235 கிணறுகள் வெட்டப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இந்த வருஷ முடிவிற்குள்ளாக 657 கிணறுகள் வெட்டப்பட்டு விடும். கிராமப் புனருத்தாரண நிர்வாகத்தில் நல்ல வேலை—இது வரையிலும் செய்யப்படாத வேலை—செய்து கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறோம் யாதொரு உதவியுமில்லாமல் ஜில்லா போர்டுகள் பஞ்சாயத்துப் போர்டுகளைப் பண உதவி கேட்காமல் மாகாண நிதியிலிருந்து செலவு செய்து கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறோம்.

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"Then with regard to the cut motion that has been moved, I have placed the whole case before hon. Members and if the hon. Member who has moved the cut motion withdraws it, I shall be very glad."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed who moved the cut motion was not in his seat; the cut motion was therefore deemed to have been withdrawn.

The Demand was put to vote and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. on Monday, the 27th March 1939.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 1032 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1939, page 661 supra.]

Statement showing the extent of damage caused in the Kistna district by the cyclone in November 1938.

Name of taluk.	Number of human lives lost.	Number of cattle perished.	Number of houses and huts damaged.	Total area on which crops were damaged.	
				Wet paddy crop.	Dry crop.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5-*a*)	(5-*b*)
				ACS.	ACS.
Bandar ..	20	4,906	11,139	28,642	2,900
Divi ..	..	10,000	4,200	5,000	500
Gudivada ..	2	1,408	2,720	37,735	..
Kaikalur ..	17	19,291	10,216	72,562	..
Total ..	39	35,605	28,275	143,939	3,400

Name of taluk.	Extent of damage done to		Approximate estimated cost on account of repairs to Government property mentioned in column (6).	The number of breaches (so far shown) that have been closed by private agencies and individuals.
	Government property (other than irrigation works).	Minor irrigation works.		
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
			RS.	
Bandar ..	Slight damages to Collector's Bungalow, Office building and Sub-Jail at Bandar. Five cattle pounds damaged.	Nil ..	2,700	One breach to Ramarajupalem channel. Four breaches to Bantumilli canal. Of these, one breach closed by private agencies.
Divi ..	Slight damages to the buildings of Taluk office, Stationary Sub-Magistrate's office and Sub-Jail, Divi.	Nil ..	50	..
Gudivada.	Four pounds and one village chavadi damaged.	Nil ..	360	One breach to Chandraya drain closed by private agencies. One breach to Polraa canal closed by Public Works Department.
Kaikalur.	....	Nil ..	..	..
Total..	Nine pounds, one village chavadi, five Government buildings and Collector's bungalow.	..	3,110	Seven breaches.

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Statement showing the damage caused by the cyclone in West Godavari district.

Serial number and taluk.	Number of human lives lost.	Number of cattle perished.		Number of houses and huts damaged.	Total area in which crops were damaged.	
		Cattle.	Sheep.		Wet crop—Extent.	Dry and garden crops—Extent.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
					ACS.	ACS.
1 Bhimavaram	5	1,521	3,656	4,412	16,382·69	..
2 Ellore	4	2,362	..	1,428	15,916·67	..
					2,444·34	(Collair lankas.)
3 Narsapur	5	1,100	3,500	4,000	9,815·12	2,521·26
4 Tanuku	5	180	..	640	2,706·38	1,161·88
5 Tadepalligudem	5	2,680	1,920	1,579	9,452·03	5·65
6 Kovvur	2	500	500	175	1,840·00	[illegible]·01
7 Chintalapudi	..	1,399	1,078	..	..	..
Total ..	26	9,712	10,649	12,234	58,557·23	4,0[illegible]·80

Serial number and taluk.	Total area in which crops were damaged—Total—Extent.	Extent of damage done to		Other damage if any.
		Government property other than irrigation works.	Minor irrigation works.	
	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
	ACS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1 Bhimavaram	16,382·69	4,000	Nil.	400 to the Local Fund Choultry at Vira Vasaram.
2 Ellore	15,916·67 2,444·34	900	3,000	..
3 Narsapur .. .. .. 4 Tanuku	12,336·38 3,868·26 }	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
5 Tadepalligudem	9,458·68	Nil.	5,546	Nil.
6 Kovvur	2,240·01	Nil.	333	Nil.
7 Chintalapudi	..	..	..	..
Total ..	62,611·03	4,900	8,879	400

Statement showing the damage caused by the cyclone in East Godavari district.

Serial number and name of the taluk.	Number of human lives lost.	Number of cattle perished.	Number of houses and huts damaged.	Total area in which crops were damaged.	Extent of damage done to — Government property other than irrigation works	Extent of damage done to — Minor irrigation works.	Other damages, if any.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
				ACS.				
1 Cocanada ..	..	7	40	1,731·59	..	*	..	* There is slight damage to a minor irrigation tank. Extent of damage not given.
2 Amalapur ..	..	556	638	19,722	250	..	..	Damages to the Sub-Registrar's Office at Amalapur, cattle pounds and village chavadies.
3 Rasole ..	13	1,361	2,010	38,515·47	† 1,550	..	..	† Damages to the flood bank of Vasista, cattle pounds and village chavadies.
4 Ramachandrapur.	..	..	..	500	..	..	..	....
5 Rajahmundry.	..	30	..	500	..	3,000	..	Damages to 5 minor irrigation works.
6 Pithapur ..	..	..	107	734·06	..	..	..	....
7 Tuni	..	3	6	..	‡ 200	..	..	‡ Damages to cattle pound and village chavadi.
8 Bhadrachalam.	..	40	..	..	..	..	..	....
9 Chodavaram..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	....
10 Yellavaram ..	..	..	..	834·19	..	§	..	§ Damages to 19 works estimates repairs not given.
11 Polavaram ..	1	5,850	60	129	..	2,400	..	Damages to 10 works.
12 Nugur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
13 Peddapur ..	1	16	252	316·15	‖ 40	14,000	..	‖ Damages to village chavadi.
		148 goats.						
Total ..	15	7,517	3,113	62,482·46	2,040	19,400	..	

Appendix II.

[*Vide* answer to starred question No. 1033 asked by Sri L. Sattanatha Karayalar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1939, page 662 supra.]

INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE RECOGNITION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS OF ASSOCIATIONS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES OTHER THAN ASSOCIATIONS OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYEES.

Definition.—In these instructions, "Government" means the Government of Madras.

Associations of Government employees serving in the departments of Government other than those in the Police and Jail departments.

1. Government are prepared to accord official recognition to associations of their employees which comply with the conditions set out below.

2. The association must ordinarily consist of a distinct class of Government employees.

3. Every Government employee of the same class must be eligible for membership of the association.

4. Ordinarily Government will not object to persons who are not in the active service of Government being office-holders of the association, but Government reserve the right in particular cases to refuse recognition to associations of which all the office-holders are not either in the active service of Government or honourably retired officers belonging to the same class of Government employees as the association represents.

5. Representations from such associations, whether made orally by deputation or presented in writing, may be received by Government officers notwithstanding anything contained in the rules relating to the submission of petitions and memorials by Government servants.

Provided that—

(*a*) no representations or deputations will be received except in connexion with a matter which is, or raises questions which are, of common interest to the class represented by the association; and

(*b*) nothing in these instructions affects the discretion of the Governor, the head of a department or any other officer of Government to receive or not to receive a deputation from any association.

6. Recognition is accorded for the purpose of enabling the employees of Government to communicate their needs to Government or to Government officers, and it may be withdrawn by Government if the members adopt other methods of ventilating those needs.

7. Government may require the regular submission, for their information, of copies of the rules of the association and the annual statement of its accounts and of lists of its members.

8. Government may specify the channel through which representations from the association shall be submitted and the authority by whom deputations may be received.

9. The officer who is empowered to grant leave to a Government employee will, so far as is possible, grant casual leave to an employee who is a representative of a recognized association to attend duly constituted meetings of the association. The grant of such leave will be subject to the exigencies of the service, of which the officer in question shall be the sole judge.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 1036 asked by Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1939, page 666 supra.]

List of electric supply licensees.

Serial number and name of the company.	Area of supply covered by the licensee.
	A. Companies.
1 Adoni Electric Supply Company, Limited.	Adoni and five miles around.
2 Anakapalle Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Anakapalle and six miles around.
3 Carnatic Electric Supply Company.	Portions of Gudiyattam and Tiruppattur taluks in the North Arcot district.
4 Chicacole Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Chicacole and a few miles around.
5 Chingleput Electric Supply Company, Limited.	Chingleput and a few miles around.
6 Chittoor Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Chittoor and five miles around.
7 Cuddapah Electric Supply Company, Limited.	Cuddapah and some villages near by.
8 East Ramnad Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Tiruppattur, Sivaganga, Tiruvadanai, Mudukulathur, Paramagudi and Ramnad taluks of the Ramnad district with the exception of the Rameswaram Island and some areas in Tiruppattur taluk.
9 East Tanjore Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Mayavaram, Mannargudi, Nannilam, Shiyali, Tiruturaipundi, Pattukkottai and part of Tanjore taluk (except Negapatam).
10 Ellore Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Ellore and six miles around.
11 Gudivada Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Gudivada and a few villages near by.

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Serial number and name of the company.	Area of supply covered by the licensee.
	A. Companies—cont.
12 Guntur Power and Light, Limited.	The taluks of Guntur, Tenali, Repalle and Bapatla of Guntur district.
13 Kanadukathan Electric Supply Corporation.	That portion of the Tiruppattur taluk of the Ramnad district lying to the east of 78°—38½′ east longitude and north of 10°—5′ north latitude.
14 Kumbakonam Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Kumbakonam and Papanasam taluks and a portion of Tanjore taluk.
15 Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Madras city and about thirty miles around.
16 Mangalore Electric Supply Company, Limited.	Mangalore and five miles around.
17 Motors and General Stores, Limited.	Bobbili and three miles around.
18 Narasaraopet Electric Corporation, Limited.	Narsaraopet and a few miles around.
19 Nattarasankottai Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Nattarasankottai and Sivaganga towns in Ramnad district.
20 Negapatam Electric Supply Company.	Negapatam town and the municipal water works area.
21 Nellore Power and Light, Limited.	Nellore and Bitragunta towns and a tract of land extending five miles on either side of the railway line between the two towns.
22 North Arcot District Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Portions of Gudiyattam and Vellore taluks in the North Arcot district.
23 Ongole Electric Supply Company, Limited.	Ongole and a few miles around.
24 Palghat Electric Corporation, Limited.	Palghat town.
25 Proddatur Power and Light, Limited.	Proddatur and some villages near by.
26 Rajahmundry Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Rajahmundry and Dowlaishwaram.
27 Reliance Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Okkur, Tiruppattur and six other villages in Ramnad district.
28 Salem-Erode Electricity Distribution Company, Limited.	Salem and Erode towns and a small portion of Salem taluk.
29 Salur-Parvatipur Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Salur and Parvatipur towns and a few miles around each place.
30 South Arcot Electricity Distribution Company, Limited.	Cuddalore, Villupuram, Chidambaram and Tindivanam taluks of the South Arcot district.
31 South Indian Electric Corporation, Limited.	British Cochin.
32 Sri Minakshi Electric Supply Corporation.	Devakottai and some miles around.
33 Sri Minakshi-Sundareswaral Electric Power Corporation, Limited.	Karaikudi town and the adjacent area.
34 Tinnevelly-Tuticorin Electric Supply Company.	Tinnevelly, Palamcottah and Tuticorin and an area covered by 5 miles on either side of the line from Tinnevelly and Tuticorin.
35 Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Committee.	Tirumalai Hills, Tirupati, and a few miles around Tirupati.
36 Trichinopoly-Srirangam Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	A portion of Tanjore taluk and the whole of Trichinopoly district with the exception of a portion of Udaiyarpalayam taluk.
37 Udipi Electric Corporation, Limited.	Udipi and a few miles around.

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Serial number and name of the company.	Area of supply covered by the licensee.
A.—Companies—cont.	
38 Vellore Electric Corporation, Limited.	Portions of Vellore and Walajahpet taluks in the North Arcot district.
39 Vizagapatam Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	Vizagapatam and 6 miles around.
40 and 41 West Coast Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, Calicut Licence and Cannanore, Tellicherry Licence.	Calicut and about 12 miles around, Tellicherry and Cannanore towns and some area around these towns.
42 West Ramnad Electric Distribution Company, Limited.	Srivilliputtur taluk of the Ramnad district.
B. Local Authorities.	
Alandoor Panchayat Board ..	Panchayat limits.
Anantapur Municipal Council ..	Municipal limits.
Bellary Municipal Council ..	Do.
Bezwada Municipal Council ..	Do.
Bodinayakanur Municipal Council	Do.
Cocanada Municipal Council ..	Do.
Coimbatore Municipal Council ..	Do.
Conjeeveram Municipal Council	Do.
Coonoor Municipal Council ..	Do.
Dharapuram Municipal Council	Do.
Dindigul Municipal Council ..	Do.
Hindupur Municipal Council ..	Do.
Hospet Municipal Council ..	Do.
Karur Municipal Council ..	Municipal limits.
Kodaikanal Municipal Council ..	Do.
Kollegal Panchayat Board ..	Panchayat limits.
Kurnool Municipal Council ..	Municipal limits.
Madura Municipal Council ..	Do.
Masulipatam Municipal Council..	Do.
Ootacamund Municipal Council..	Ootacamund and a few consumers outside municipality and bulk supply to Coonoor.
Palni Municipal Council ..	Municipal limits.
Periyakulam Municipal Council..	Do.
Pollachi Municipal Council ..	Do.
Sembiam Panchayat Board ..	Panchayat limits.
Sivakasi Municipal Council ..	Municipal limits.
Tanjore Municipal Council ..	Do.
Tiruppattur Municipal Council ..	Do.
Tiruppur Municipal Council ..	Do.
Tiruvallur Panchayat Board ..	Panchayat limits.
Tiruvannamalai Municipal Council.	Municipal limits.
Tiruvottiyur Panchayat Board ..	Panchayat limits.
Udamalpet Municipal Council ..	Municipal limits.
Villivakkam Panchayat Board ..	Panchayat limits.
Virudunagar Municipal Council..	Municipal limits.
Wellington Cantonment Board ..	Cantonment limits.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 27th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Alleged revolutionary propaganda carried on by the Kisan workers and peasants' organizations in Malabar.

* 1051 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA on behalf of Sri E. Kannan: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the villages in Malabar in which the Kisan workers and peasants' organizations have been carrying on revolutionary or lawless propaganda;

(*b*) the names of persons prosecuted by the Police in connexion with the Kisan movement in North Malabar since June 1938;

(*c*) the names of the Adhigaris (karnams) in North Malabar belonging to jenmi families against whom the Kisan movement is now working;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that one Sri Vishnu Bharatheeyan was arrested and convicted by the Sub-Magistrate, Taliparamba, and if so, for what offence; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Malabar met most of the jenmis of North Malabar at Irikkur in November and if so, who the jenmis were that met him?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The Government are unable to answer this question.

" (*b*) Thirteen cases in Taliparamba, five cases in Mattanur, one case in Peringom and fifteen cases in Payyanur.

" (*c*) The Government are unable to answer this question.

" (*d*) He was convicted by the Sub-Magistrate, Taliparamba, on account of a speech at a meeting in which he urged his hearers to cut and take firewood from the forest even if it meant going to jail.

"(e) The Collector met and spoke to five or six jenmis at Iritty in November. The Government have no information as to names."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, what is the nature of the propaganda which, in the view of the Government, would characterize it as being revolutionary or lawless?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The hon. Member may please read the first part of his question a little more deliberately."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I want to know the nature of the propaganda which may be considered as lawless and revolutionary in the view of the Government."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, can an hon. Member read his supplementary question?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Do you not want an hon. Member who does not know English sufficiently well to take the help of somebody else who knows English to frame his supplementary questions, to get them written out and then read them out in the House? That will save the trouble of translation. Do you object to that also?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"May I know what the point of order is?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member objects to supplementary questions being *read out* in the House by Mr. Nagappa. Mr. Nagappa does not know English; he seeks the help of some friend to render his supplementary questions into English, gets them written out and reads them out here. On the other hand, if he puts his supplementary questions in Telugu, they will have to be translated."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The supplementary question wants to elicit the meaning of the phra[se] used in clause (*a*) of the original question. That is th[e] very reason why the Government are unable to answer th[e] question."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I know whether these orga[ni]nizations are run by Congressmen?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Even th[at] is a difficult thing for the Government to answer."

Number of cases registered and charge-sheeted in connexion wit[h] the peasant agitation in the Chirakkal and Kottayam taluks.

* 1052 *Q.*—KHAN BAHADUR P. M. ATTAKOYA THANGA SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be please[d] to state how many cases have so far been registered against peasa[nt] agitators in the Chirakkal and Kottayam taluks and how man[y] of them had been charge-sheeted by the Police?

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Twenty-nine cases have been charged by the Police in connexion with the peasant agitation in these two taluks."

Abolition of the reserved seats for the Scheduled classes in the Madras Legislative Assembly.

* 1053 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA on behalf of Sri E. Kannan: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have received any representations from any member of the Scheduled classes since 1936 to move the Secretary of State to take steps for the abolition of the seats reserved for the Scheduled classes in the Madras Legislative Assembly; and

(*b*) if so, whether those representations will be placed on the table of this House and what steps the Government have taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The Government are unable to trace the receipt of any such representation.

" (*b*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*), the question does not arise."

Rate of revenue collected by the inamdars for inam lands.

* 1054 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of inam land covered under the Permanent Settlement in this Province;

(*b*) how much land revenue the Government get out of these lands;

(*c*) what rate the inamdar should collect from the inam ryot according to the Permanent Settlement fixed then;

(*d*) whether the inamdars are collecting land-tax at the same rate fixed at the time of the Permanent Settlement; and

(*e*) if not, how much?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information."

Suggestion of visitors regarding the preparation of kolambu *and vegetables in jails and Borstal schools.*

* 1055 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the visitors to any jails and Borstal schools made any proposals to change the manner of preparing *kolambu* and vegetables; and

(*b*) whether this was introduced?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (a) Certain visitors to two central jails have made proposals for a change in the manner of preparing *kolambu* and vegetable curry.

" (b) The proposals are under the consideration of the Inspector-General of Prisons and are being tried in certain jails."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI :—" In view of the fact that this matter has been pending for a long time, may I know whether an early decision will be arrived at? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have already stated that it is being tried in certain jails and when the experiment is found to be a success, steps will be taken to put it into practice."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" May I ask whether the experiment is as regards the manner of preparing *kolambu* or the materials composing it? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The manner as well as the materials are under consideration."

Measures to improve the status of Indian medicine in the Province.

* 1056 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the steps taken by the present Government to encourage the indigenous systems of medicine since July 1937;

(b) whether the Government received representations from L.I.M. rural medical practitioners to permit them to take up public health training and if so, whether the Government were pleased to consider them favourably;

(c) what the objections are to convert the present Indian Medical School into a college;

(d) whether provision is made for carrying on research work in Indian medicine, in the School of Indian Medicine; and

(e) how far the Government are going to improve the status of Indian medicine in the Province and what the recommendations of the Principal are in his latest annual report submitted to the Government?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) No special steps have been taken in the matter except that the lady students of the school have been provided with teaching in maternity work and in diseases peculiar to women in the Government Gosha Hospital, Triplicane.

" (b) Yes; it has been decided that practitioners in charge of rural dispensaries of Indian Medicine may be deputed for training in public health work.

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"(c) The need for training candidates in courses higher than the H.P.I.M. course, which is already in existence, has not been felt.

"(d) There is one Medical Registrar in the Indian Medical school for research work.

"(e) It is not proposed at present to take any steps in the matter. As regards the recommendations of the Principal, Indian Medical School, attention is invited to the Principal's annual report on the working of the school printed with G.O. No. 4841, P.H., dated the 25th November 1938, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—"Is there any sum provided in the next year's budget for the improvement of the Medical School?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I suppose the hon. Member means this year's budget."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is the evil of putting questions in English by people who do not know English."

Mr. Rangiah Nayudu rose from his seat.

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I know if bacteriology forms part of the courses of study in the School of Indian Medicine?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Krishna Rao will please resume his seat."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—"It is a disgrace to the members that the Hon. Speaker should say that they do not know English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What does the hon. Member say?"

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"His complaint is that it is a disgrace to be told that he does not know English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member does not know English so well as Telugu."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—"If you say like that, I submit it is a disgrace to the hon. Members, to the country and to the Congress Party."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Sri Rangiah Nayudu knows Telugu very well. He does not know English so well as he knows Telugu. He can speak in Telugu very eloquently and very clearly and much better than in English. There is no doubt about it. There is no disgrace at all in this. No hon. Member need feel any disgrace if he is told that he can speak more clearly in his mother tongue than in a foreign tongue."

SRI G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—"There is a feeling among the Members like that."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" No hon. Member need feel like that. If any hon. Member says that he can speak in Telugu much better than in English, I shall be proud of it. It is not a disgrace at all. Sri Rangiah Nayudu may put his supplementary questions in Telugu. Even if any Member objects to it, I will allow it."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" May I know if bacteriology forms part of the courses of study in the Indian School of Medicine?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" No, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government have considered the scheme of research put forward by the Congress Government in United Provinces?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" This Government do not know what the United Provinces scheme is. If information is wanted, we will send for it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know who are the people or the authorities who think that the question of raising the status of the Indian Medical School to that of a College does not arise or that it is not necessary?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The question of raising any institution to a grade higher than its present one primarily emanates from the principal of the institution, and then when the Government get the request from the principal, they consider the question on its merits."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Do the Government consider it unnecessary to encourage the indigenous systems of medicine and if so why?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Government do not consider it unnecessary to encourage the indigenous systems of medicine."

SRI B. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU:—" Is it true that the Principal of the Indian Medical School has made out a case in the current annual administration report of the school, for raising the status of the School to that of a College?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The question of raising an institution to a higher grade depends on so many considerations. If the Principal thinks that the School should be raised to the status of a College, it is for him to make the necessary proposals to make the school as good as a college. If such a proposal comes before the Government, as I have already mentioned, the Government will certainly consider the question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact Sir, that a very important and influential deputation waited

on the Government one of whose demands was that this school should be raised to the status of a college? May I know what action the Minister has taken on the request? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" No such deputation waited on the Government."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that bacteriology is not part of the courses of study in the School of Indian Medicine, may I ask how teaching in the preventive side of medicine could be given to students of that school? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" When the Indian Medical School students are employed in the branch of preventive medicine, the Government will take care to see that they get the necessary knowledge of bacteriology."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to remember that a deputation waited on *him* and made demands for raising the status of the school to that of a college? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" No, Sir."

Removal of timber from the unreserved forests in Nugur and Bhadrachalam taluks for agricultural and domestic purposes.

* 1057 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Nugur and Bhadrachalam taluks used to enjoy the privilege of cutting and removing timber from unreserved forests for agricultural and domestic purposes formerly;

(*b*) whether they enjoy those privileges at present; and

(*c*) if not, whether the Government propose to grant such privileges now?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (*a*) Yes; for *bona fide* agricultural and domestic purposes and not for purposes of trade.

" (*b*) Yes; but during a part of the year 1938, the removals were restricted to the adjoining unreserves only. The restriction has, however, been subsequently cancelled.

" (*c*) The question whether the privilege should be continued is under consideration."

Removal of wood from unreserved forests by the ryots for domestic and agricultural purposes.

* 1058 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the ryots are not allowed to get wood required for their domestic and agricultural purposes from

another unreserve when there is such wood available in the particular unreserve attached to the village in Bhadrachalam taluk;

(b) whether it is a fact that the ryots in the Agency of East Godavari made representations when the Hon. the Minister toured in these areas; and

(c) whether the Government intend to relax the above restriction?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (a) & (c) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to starred question No. 1057.

" (b) The answer is in the affirmative."

Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur put a question in Malayalam.

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" This question relates to forests in the Bhadrachalam taluk, and not to any place in Malabar, Sir." (Laughter.)

Revenue from seigniorage fee for the removal of green manure.

* 1059 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) how much revenue is derived from each district on account of the seigniorage fee for the removal of green manure; and

(b) whether permits for green manure are issued in all districts where there are forest areas?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a) A statement [a] giving the information is laid on the table.

" (b) The answer is in the negative. Removal is allowed in divisions in which no other source of manure is available and such removal does not have a deleterious effect on the forests."

Development of lead pencil industry in this Province.

* 1060 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the manufacture of lead pencils is done on any extensive scale in this Province; and

(b) what interest, if any, the Government have taken in the development of this industry?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) Yes; by the Madras Pencil Factory.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 862 infra.

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"(b) This factory was originally started by Government and was run on commercial lines, and when its commercial success was established it was made over to private enterprise. Even after this, the services of officers of the Department of Industries have continued to be available to the concern. The Chief Conservator of Forests recently supplied 18 samples of local wood to the factory free of cost for trial and has offered to work out costs and quote them at as reasonable a price as possible, should the company select any particular variety of wood. The Government have decided to obtain future supplies of black lead pencils required for tbe public service from the Madras Pencil Factory, provided that the present quality of the pencils is kept up and the price is reasonable. The local bodies have also been advised to obtain, as far as possible, their future supplies of black lead pencils from this factory, subject to the same conditions as to price and quality."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the production is sufficient to meet the demands of this Government?"

Sri B. S. MURTI:—"I think it is sufficient, Sir."

Sri G. RANGIAH NAYUDU:—"Are there any other factories in this Province, Sir, Government or private?"

Sri B. S. MURTI:—"Notice, Sir."

Nature of help given to Kollegal Silk Filatures, Limited, Kollegal.

* 1061 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the nature of help given to Kollegal Silk Filatures, Limited, Kollegal; and

(b) the progress made by this company?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(a) The Government have taken fully paid-up shares in the Kollegal Silk Filatures, Limited, of the value of Rs. 17,850.

"(b) The company commenced manufacturing operations in November 1937 with 40 basins. In September 1938 the number of basins was increased to 76. As 74 basins were required in order to complete the original scheme of working 150 basins at the factory, these were ordered for. They have now been received and will be erected shortly. The company has during the last 15 months of its working purchased cocoons worth Rs. 47,108. Out of a total production of

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12,091 lbs. of silk, it has sold 10,016 lbs. and has booked for sale a greater portion of the balance. The factory has also produced 7,792 lbs. of silk waste. The total amount realized from sales so far is Rs. 59,479."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether any expert is employed by the Government to help this company, Sir? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" The Government have no information whether any expert is employed by the company."

Industrial schemes investigated by the Director of Industries.

* 1062 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Director of Industries investigated into any industrial schemes with a view to advising the Government to start them;

(*b*) what these schemes are;

(*c*) whether the Government started any of them; and

(*d*) if so, what these are?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to my speeches on the occasion of the budget debates on the Industries demand on the question of the policy of the Government in regard to the development of Industries at pages 718–721 of Volume III, No. 9, of the Legislative Assembly debates, dated the 23rd September 1937, pages 708–715 of Volume VI, No. 10, dated the 24th March 1938, and pages 789–792 of Volume VI, No. 11, dated the 25th March 1938, of the Legislative Assembly Debates. The Government are taking part in the All-India Industrial Planning Commission and the conclusions of the Commission will have a large bearing on the future of industries in this Province. Information regarding certain schemes investigated by the Director of Industries and Commerce will be found in the Administration Report of the Department of Industries for 1937–38 and in a note on ' The Economic Resources of the Province of Madras and the Possibilities of their Development ' by Mr. L. B. Green, copies of which are available in the library of the Madras Legislature for reference.

" (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*d*) The question does not arise."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government have any idea of starting any of these industries? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" I have just said that the Government are awaiting the decision of the All-India Planning Commission."

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SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Is there any direct connexion between this Government and that Commission, Sir?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"Very direct connexion, as far as our Ministers are taking part in it."

Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur put a question in Malayalam.

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"I am unable to understand the question, Sir." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Can you not get the question translated by somebody? That is not the way in which a Parliamentary Secertary is expected to answer."

MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister in his reply . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Do you know English, Mr. Rahman?"

Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur replied in Malayalam.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the Parliamentary Secretary cannot give the reply; there is no helping it. If you do not know English well and speak in Malayalam, then somebody must help the Parliamentary Secretary. There is no doubt that Mr. Abdur Rahman knows Malayalam better than English."

MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I can speak Malayalam, Sir, much better than English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no doubt about it; you can speak better in Malayalam. But if you want, you can put a question in English and take the answer."

MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister in his reply has stated that the All-India Planning Commission's schemes may be carried out. My question is, what are the schemes that have been submitted to the Madras Government by the All-India Commission?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—"I have submitted, Sir, that the Madras Government are awaiting, along with other Provincial Governments in the country, the decision of the All-India Planning Commission which is trying to find out what industries can be started, where, with what capital and what the facilities are for starting them, etc."

MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is no answer to my question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member must receive the answer as it is given; if he is not satisfied, he may put another question for further information."

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Promotions from the lower to higher grades in the Government Press.

* 1063 Q.—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Administration Reports and Public Information be pleased to state whether promotions of workers in the Government Press from the lower to the higher grades are not regulated according to seniority?

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Government Press Subordinate Service Rules—pages 177–183 of Madras Services Manual, Volume II."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the Superintendent, Government Press, violated the rules in the matter of promotions and promoted a junior, overlooking the claims of seniors, in the binding section?"

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—" The Government are not aware of it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Is this House going to consider also questions of promotions and such other things? I never thought like that; I should have then disallowed the question. I think grievances of such a minor nature ought not to be brought to the House."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan said " They are not minor matters " and began to rise in his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, will kindly sit down."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I want to submit with regard to your remarks. Sir, that . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No, the hon. Member will quietly resume his seat."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" With regard to your remarks . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No, the hon. Member will resume his seat."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am prepared to obey, Sir; but I do not like the attitude of the Chair . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member should not say like that; if he does not like the attitude of the Chair, he must quietly submit to it. He should not say such things. The hon. Member, the Leader of the Muslim League party, has been shown the maximum indulgence and patience by all the Members of this House, the Government benches and the Chair. But there is a limit even to that patience. The hon. Member will quietly put relevant questions and make relevant speeches and relevant remarks;

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let him not think that he alone is entitled to make sarcasms and all sorts of criticism. There should be some order observed and some decorum too."

Supervision of the Tiruvallam bridge work by Messrs. Mackenzies, Limited.

* 1064 Q.—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state with reference to the construction of the Tiruvallam bridge—

(a) whether it is a fact that the establishment charges of Messrs. Mackenzies, Limited, are being paid by the North Arcot District Board;

(b) if so, what the necessity for the same is when there is already the engineering staff of the district board; and

(c) the amount so far spent towards the establishment charges of the firm by the District Board or by the Government?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) *to* (c) The total amount of establishment charges claimed by the contractors till 18th October 1938 when they stopped work is Rs. 4,967-4-7. No establishment charges of the contractors have yet been paid by the District Board or Government. The arbitrator appointed for the settlement of disputes arising out of the contract passed an award allowing a portion of their establishment charges for the period from 1st April 1937 to 23rd November 1937 as compensation for actual additional expenses incurred mainly on establishment. According to the supplemental agreement, dated 20th April 1938, between the District Board and the contractors, the latter were to be paid for the execution of certain items of work involving change in specification or difficulties in execution on the basis of cost plus 10 per cent. Whether the term 'cost' includes the establishment charges at site and superior supervision charges of the contractors or not is to be decided by the arbitrator. The payment due to the contractors under the award is pending as certain conditions have not been satisfied by them."

SRI P. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know what the name is of the arbitrator in connexion with this case?"

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" May I know what is the necessity for the Government to appoint a Special Engineer to this bridge-work, when there is a senior District Board Engineer in charge of the district board works?"

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I am afraid this question does not arise out of the main question."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—" Sir, my supplementary question arises out of clause (b) of the question which

asks, 'what the necessity for the same is, when there is already the engineering staff of the district board.' "

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That question does not relate to the appointment of the Special Engineer."

Payment of higher rates for sinking wells in the foundations of the Tiruvallam bridge.

*1065 Q.—Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state with reference to the construction of the Tiruvallam bridge—

(a) whether it is a fact that higher rates for sinking the wells in foundations have been paid; if so, the necessity for such payment; and

(b) whether there is any provision for such payment in the sanctioned estimate?

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) Yes. The contractors claimed that the soil below the layer of clay and sand consisted of soft and hard rock and not 'Morambu' as mentioned in the original estimate and tender notice, and demanded higher rates for sinking wells in rock. Their claim was admitted by the arbitrator to whom the question was referred.

" (b) The agreement between the District Board and the contractors provided, in the event of any difference, for a reference to arbitration. Payment at higher rates was made in accordance with the arbitrator's award."

Payment of travelling allwance by the District Board, Vellore, to the representatives of Messrs. Mackenzies, Limited, contractors of the Tiruvallam bridge work.

*1066 Q.—Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state with reference to the construction of the Tiruvallam bridge—

(a) what the necessity is for referring the various disputes to arbitrators;

(b) what the amount of award passed by the arbitrator is;

(c) whether it is a fact that the travelling allowance of the firm's representatives is being paid by the District Board, Vellore; and

(d) if so, under what provision the travelling allowance is being paid?

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) The contractors referred the disputed claims to the arbitrator as the agreement between them and the District Board provided for such a course.

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"(b) The points that were referred to arbitration and the decision of the arbitrator are summarized below:—

Nature of claim.	Amount claimed.	Arbitrator's ruling.
	RS. A. P.	
I. Higher rate for sinking wells in hard and soft rock in place of the rates for soft and hard morambu provided in the estimate	22,140 0 0	Allowed.
II. Extra charges owing to the benching of hard and soft rock met with ..	8,777 0 0	Do.
III. Well sinking. Increased rate for adopting the unit of quantity based on external volume of the well instead of internal volume ..	21,371 0 0	Disallowed.
IV. Extra charge for capping slab on wells on account of extra reinforcement required by the District Board Engineer	848 10 0	Do.
V. Pumping charges under items I and II of sinking wells into rock by blasting and chiselling and to bed wells in the hard rock	3,379 10 0	Not pressed.
VI. Establishment charges	..	Allowed. The amount has not been decided by the arbitrator.
VII. Compensation for delay caused in acquiring the necessary land ..	2,000 0 0	Compromised and withdrawn.
VIII. Requisition to allow initial lead and lift of 10 yards and one yard respectively as per District Board Schedule of Rates against 20 yards and 2 yards prescribed in the Madras Detailed Standard Specifications	Lump sum	Disallowed.
IX. Refund of deposit B. contract ..	..	Allowed.

"(c) & (d) No travelling allowance appears to have been paid so far by the District Board to the firm's representatives. The matter was referred to the arbitrator whose decision was to allow the travelling expenses of the members of the head office of the firm who visited the work from 1st April to 23rd November 1937."

Sri S. C. Venkatappa Chettiyar rose.

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Are you putting a supplementary uestion?"

Sri S. C. VENKATAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"No, Sir, I am ıoving about."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I have requested all Members to observe ome decorum. In spite of that I see Members are moving bout, crossing the floor, talking sitting and disturbing the busiess of the House. I hope that hon. Members will take at least ome of the suggestions in future for the better and more dignified onduct of the business of the House, and observe silence."

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Preparation of the working estimates of the right abutment of the Tiruvallam bridge by Messrs. Mackenzies, Limited.

* 1067 *Q.*—Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state with reference to the construction of the Tiruvallam bridge—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that working estimates of the right abutment are being prepared by the contractors themselves at the cost of the North Arcot District Board; and

(*b*) if so, why they are not prepared by the Engineering staff of the district board?

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (*a*) & (*b*) On 2nd June 1938 the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore, the Executive Engineer, Vellore, the Special District Board Engineer for the Ponnani bridge work and the representative of the contractors discussed the method of work to be adopted on the right abutment which presented certain unusual difficulties. The methods suggested by the Superintending Engineer and by the contractors were both discussed and the one suggested by the contractors was accepted by the Superintending Engineer. According to this understanding the contractors should be paid an extra 2½ per cent for drawing up detailed plans, estimates and specifications for the method suggested by them. During execution it was found that the contractors were not able to carry out the work satisfactorily as per their design. The President of the District Board therefore considered payment for the preparation of the design unnecessary and has addressed the Superintending Engineer in the matter. This part of the work has since been completed in accordance with the departmental design."

Out-turn of work by the District Board Engineer and the Special District Board Engineer, Vellore, respectively, in the Tiruvallam bridge construction work.

* 1068 *Q.*—Sri B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state, with reference to the construction of the Tiruvallam bridge, the amount of work turned out under the supervision of the District Board Engineer, Vellore, and that executed after the appointment of the Special District Board Engineer for the bridge?

Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" It is not possible to get a precise account of the amount of work done by each of the Engineers, but the amount of expenditure

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incurred on the work from June 1935 to December 1937 under the supervision of the District Board Engineer, Vellore, is Rs. 2,89,861-4-1 while that incurred on the work from January 1938 to December 1938 under the supervision of the Special District Board Engineer is Rs. 2,13,958-7-3. The work is now nearing completion."

Arrangements for the teaching of Hindustani in both the scripts, Nagari and Persian.

* 1069 *Q.*—K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—Will the the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of teachers appointed in the Presidency for the teaching of Hindustani in the schools selected for the introduction of that language;

(*b*) the number of those among them who are conversant with both the scripts, Nagari and Persian; and

(*c*) the arrangements made for the teaching of the language in Persian script in those institutions where the teachers appointed are not conversant with that script?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"(*a*) One hundred and forty-four teachers have been employed in 123 schools.

"(*b*) One hundred and fourteen.

"(*c*) In a few of these schools there are two instructors one of whom is conversant with the Arabic script and there is no difficulty. Wherever there is a demand, suitable arrangements will be made for this. In every one of the 123 schools, we do not need a teacher conversant with the Arabic script."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what arrangements have been made to find out whether there is a demand for Persian script in any particular institution?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"From the students' demand we find out whether there is a demand for it in a particular institution; especially, if Muslim students are not attending any such school, there is no use supplying a teacher knowing the Urdu or Arabic script."

MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (*a*), whether any lady-teachers have been appointed in the Government girls' schools, and if so, what their number is?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"Of course, it is connected with the question, but I am not prepared for the answer just now, Sir?"

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Number of Muslim students studying Hindustani in the schools selected for the compulsory introduction of Hindi.

* 1070 *Q.*—K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of Muslim students studying Hindustani under the compulsory introduction of that language in the various selected schools; and

(*b*) the number of those among them that are studying the language in the Persian script?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) & (*b*) One thousand and fifty-six Muslim students are reported to be studying Hindustani under the new scheme and 325 are using the Urdu script."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether he has got any special reasons as to why the Muslim students studying Hindustani are mostly studying it in the Nagiri script? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" Probably they do not like the Urdu script."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister has made any arrangement to find out whether the students like the Urdu script or they do not like that script? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" Yes, Sir. Just to satisfy the hon. Member I will read out a few figures. In the Amalapuram Board High School, 23 Muslim boys are studying it in Nagari and 15 in Urdu; in the Tanuku Board High School, 8 are studying in both and in the Nuzvid R.R. School, 6 are studying in Nagari and 4 are studying in Urdu. Thus, we have figures to show that though we are providing for teaching in Urdu, they do not avail themselves of it."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is the choice of the script left mainly to the students, or are their parents also consulted in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" As seen from the figures read out we have provided a teacher for teaching in Arabic script, but only few students have taken to it."

K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I suggest to the Hon. Minister that before Muslim students are . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is a suggestion and not a supplementary question."

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K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is not advisable to consult the parents of these Muslim boys before the choice of the script is determined for them? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" It is not possible for the head of any institution to go about consulting the parents about the script, but it is the duty of the parents themselves to inform the headmasters whether their children would like to study the language in the Nagari or in the Urdu script."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know whether there has been any case of complaint about this? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" No information, Sir."

SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Then, Sir, how are we to know that the choice is left to the students themselves? "

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" From the very fact that they have taken to the Nagari script when Urdu is provided, it is clear that the choice is given to the students."

Hardship of the teachers belonging to the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union.

* 1071 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA on behalf of Sri E. Kannan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Educational Officers of Malabar have written to some of the managements that the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union is not a body recognized by the department and, if so, what the motive behind such communication is;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that several members of the Malabar Aided Elementary Teachers' Union are oppressed and removed from service by the managements concerned without any adequate reasons; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that most of these things were brought to the notice of the District Educational Officers and, if so, what they did in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—" (*a*) The District Educational Officer, South Malabar, has not written to any management that the Elementary Teachers' Union is unrecognized. The District Educational Officer, North Malabar, on a reference from the President of the Malabar Education Society, stated that the union was not recognized by the department. This was a mere statement of fact and had no motive behind it.

"(*b*) & (*c*) A few cases of grievances of teachers have come to notice and have been investigated by the Education department and Government and wherever there was a real grievance proper remedies have been obtained for the parties concerned. The Government have also issued certain rules under the Madras Elementary Education Act with a view to improve the conditions of service of teachers in aided elementary schools. They have also issued orders for the recognition of unions started by teachers."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government are going to recognize this union, whether they are also going to direct the management concerned in this case to reinstate the teachers who were removed from service?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"The suggestion will be considered later on."

Muhamad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur put a supplementary question in Malayalam.

The Hon. Sri C. J. Varkey replied in Malayalam.

SRI T. S. CHOKKALINGAM PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, the meaning of the question and the answer just now put and replied?"

Muhamad Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur put a question in Malayalam.

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"The hon. Member is making an observation, Sir, and he is not putting a supplementary question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a supplementary question, it appears."

MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister replied that there was no motive behind the communication of the North Malabar District Educational Officer in saying that the union was not recognized and my question is, what was the occasion for such a reference?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"There was no particular occasion, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"On a point of order, Sir, may I know whether the proceedings of the House can take place in any language even though it is not possible for the Speaker to understand it?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Even some of the so-called English speeches are not intelligible to every member of the House including the Chair. Some hon. Members speak in such a confusing manner that the meaning of what they say is not often clear either to the hon. Members of the House or to the Chair. All the same we have to get on."

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Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" I am raising a point of order with regard to the inability of the Speaker to understand what is taking place in the House."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The Speaker tries to understand hon. Members to the best of his ability."

Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" Is trying to understand equal to understanding it, Sir? "

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I have not understood Mr. Krishna Rao's English questions a number of times and even Ministers have asked him to repeat his questions a number of times because they could not understand them. We are trying to understand the hon. Member's English."

Sri G. KRISHNA RAO:—" I am stating this in regard to a particular language."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I know Malayalam, but I am not up to the mark in that language. In fact, I have studied Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Hindustani, but if you want me to speak in these languages, it will be very difficult for me to do so, except probably in Hindustani. I may say that I know all the languages of this House to some extent."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Operation of the Madras State Aid to Industries Act.

288 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of loans granted under the State Aid to Industries Act since the present Government came into power up till now;

(*b*) the nature of the industry and the amount granted in each case;

(*c*) the number of applications made during the period; and

(*d*) in case of refusal, the reasons for the same in each case?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) Statements [a] furnishing the information are laid on the table of the House.

Details regarding cumbly industry in the Province during 1936–37.

289 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state with reference to question No. 586, dated 30th March 1938, in respect of the value of cumblies manufactured in the Province—

(*a*) the value of the cumblies in 1936–37; and

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 863–877 infra.

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(*b*) the value of those sent out of the Province during the same period?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Information regarding the value of cumblies manufactured in this Province in 1936–37 and exported from here is not available.

Quantity of cement manufactured and consumed in this Province last year and the quantity imported from outside.

290 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of cement manufactured in this Province last year;

(*b*) the quantity consumed in the Province during the same time;

(*c*) whether any quantity of cement is imported into this Province from outside; and

(*d*) if so, what the quantity is?

A.—(*a*) 118,821 tons for the year ending July 1938.

(*b*) The quantity available for consumption is estimated at 142,872 tons.

(*c*) & (*d*) 49,428 tons were imported into the Province both by sea and rail.

Labour schools in Malabar.

291 *Q.*—Sri E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that most of the Labour schools in Malabar are situated in localities where there are common schools admitting Harijans and if so, what the necessity is for continuing these schools;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that many of the Labour school teachers are influencing Harijan parents not to send their children to the common schools that are nearer to their homes than the existing labour schools, and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to put an end to this; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that some of the Labour school teachers in Malabar are taking part in Harijan conferences of a political nature and if so, what action has been or is proposed to be taken against them by the District Labour Officer?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The matter is being examined.

(*c*) One labour school teacher who is a member of a scheduled class and who is also the Secretary of the Malabar Adi-Dravida Mahajana Sabha attended a

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Conference of the scheduled classes opened by the Hon. Minister for Agriculture and Rural Uplift at Taliparamba. No objection has so far been taken to teachers becoming members of the Sabha or their attending Conferences. The Collector is, however, examining the nature of the Sabha's activities with a view to deciding whether or not the teacher should be allowed to continue as a member of the Sabha.

Machinery and appliances purchased for the handloom industry from 1935–36 *to* 1938–39.

292 *Q.*—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the amount of grant given or provided for, for the handloom industry for the years 1935–36, 1936–37, 1937–38 and 1938–39 from the Provincial Funds is;

(*b*) whether all the grants provided for have been expended;

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) is in the affirmative, what amount was spent in the purchase of machinery and appliances in the abovesaid years;

(*d*) who was entrusted with the purchase of these machinery and appliances;

(*e*) what heavy machinery was purchased during the abovesaid years and where they were installed; and

(*f*) whether all these were purchased on cash basis and, if so, what percentage of commission was granted on them and whether they were shown as such in the accounts?

A.—(*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the Government of India subvention scheme. His attention is invited to the answer to the unstarred question No. 219 given on the floor of the House on 20th February 1939.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*b*).

(*d*) The Director of Industries and Commerce and also the Principal, Government Textile Institute, Madras.

(*e*) Particulars of heavy machinery purchased are as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
1937–38—			
(1) Second-hand calendering plant	6,000	0	0

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	RS.	A.	P.
1938–39—			
(2) One Balmforth vertical boiler.	2,300	0	0
(3) Piece end sewing machine and spray damping machine.	2,900	0	0
(4) One B.B.C. motor of 75 b.h.p. for driving the 7-bowl calender complete with the required starting gear and accessories	2,840	0	0
(5) One B.B.C. motor of 3 h.p. for driving the spray damper complete with starter	235	0	0
(6) One motor B.B.C. for driving the cylinder dyer	190	0	0
(7) One B.B.C. motor for driving the squeezer 4 h.p. with one hand operated switch box ...	221	4	0
(8) One B.B.C. motor for driving the scutcher 2 h.p. with one 3-pole hand operated switch box.	140	0	0

The machinery purchased has not yet been installed as the building for housing it in the Textile Institute, Madras, has not been completed.

(*f*) The purchases were on cash basis and no commission was allowed.

Hardship experienced by the villagers living adjacent to reserved forests in Dharmapuri and Harur taluks.

293 *Q.*—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number and name of the villages in the proximity of the reserved forests in Dharmapuri and Harur taluks;

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposals to mitigate the inconvenience and annoyance caused to the villagers by the Forest department;

(*c*) how many cases were launched and compounded against these villagers in each of the last three years by the Forest department; and

(*d*) what the amount of fine or compounded amount collected was from these villagers in each of the last three years?

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A.—(a) The number of villages in the proximity of reserved forests in Dharmapuri and Harur taluks is 88 and 142, respectively, as shown in the list [a] appended.

(b) Authenticated complaints are investigated and are dealt with on their merits.

(c) The number of cases that were launched and compounded against these villagers for each of the last three years was as follows:—

	Cases launched.	Cases compounded.
1935–36	362	344
1936–37	382	364
1937–38	338	321

(d) The amount of fines or compounding fees collected from these villagers in each of the last three years was—

	RS.	A.	P.
1935–36	2,671	0	0
1936–37	2,799	8	0
1937–38	2,021	12	0

Conduct of a lottery for the collection of funds for the renovation of the Srirangam temple, and matters relating thereto.

294 *Q.*—SRI R. MARUTHAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that a committee composed of some influential persons conducted a lottery for the purpose of renovating the Srirangam temple and for purchasing lands as it was found not possible with the existing funds to run the temple on the lines conducted long since;

(b) whether the Government have permitted the running of the lottery; whether it is being conducted now too; if not, when it was stopped; and

(c) what was the amount collected by the committee; what they did with the amount so collected?

A.—(a) Yes; five lotteries were conducted between the years 1927 and 1936 for rehabilitating the finances of the devasthanam and renovating the premises of the devasthanam.

(b) In 1927, the Government granted conditional immunity for the holding of lotteries by the Srirangam Sri Ranganatha Dharma Kainkarya Lottery Sabha, and it was acted upon for the holding of subsequent lotteries. The lottery is not conducted now and

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 878–879 infra.

was stopped on 15th February 1936 under the orders of Government in accordance with their policy laid down in this respect in 1935.

(c) The information [a] is furnished.

Advice of Government, if any, in regard to the permission granted by the Executive Officer of the Srirangam temple to the Motion Pictures Company for taking photos on festive occasions.

295 *Q.*—SRI R. MARUTHAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has permitted the Executive Officer of the Srirangam temple to allow the Motion Pictures Company to take photos on festive occasions; if so, what for; and

(b) whether the President of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board consulted the Government in the matter, and if so, what advice was given by them?

A.—(a) The Motion Pictures Company never applied for permission nor were they allowed to shoot pictures on festive occasions in the Sri Ranganathaswami temple, Srirangam.

(b) The question does not arise.

Construction of a foot-bridge between Kottapalem and Adavuladeevi, Repalle taluk.

296 *Q.*—SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations were made when he visited the spot that a foot-bridge should be constructed between Kottapalem and Adavuladeevi of Repalle taluk; and

(b) what action the Hon. Minister proposes to take in the matter?

A.—(a) The hon. Member himself on behalf of the ryots of Kottapalem village represented that a bridge across the Alchi channel should be constructed to enable the ryots to cross the channel. No other representations have been received.

(b) The proposal mentioned in clause (a) has been remitted to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and President, District Board, Guntur, for consideration.

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a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 880–881 infra.

7th March 1939]

Vorks turned out by the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Tirunelveli.

297 *Q.*—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. ıe Minister for Law be pleased to state with reference to the 'istrict Court of Tirunelveli—

(*a*) the number of civil appeals from the decisions of (i))istrict Munsifs, (ii) Subordinate Judges, and (iii) Revenue ɔurts and of original petitions pending disposal on 1st January 939 for more than (1) six months, (2) one year, (3) two years, and 4) three years;

(*b*) whether the Additional Sessions Judge was invested with he powers of a District Judge with a view to clearing off the rrears and if so, when and for what period;

(*c*) the number of civil cases transferred to the Additional)istrict Judge and disposed of by him; and

(*d*) the extent of arrears cleared by the appointment of the .dditional District and Sessions Judge?

A.—(*a*) A statement[a] is laid on the table of the House.

(*b*) This officer was appointed as Additional District Judge, during the short period of his tenure, not with a view to clearing off arrears, but as a precaution, in case the adjournment of his criminal cases left time on his hands which could usefully be employed on civil work.

(*c*) No civil cases were transferred to the Additional District and Sessions Judge and disposed of by him.

(*d*) the extent of arrears cleared by the appointment of the the Additional District and Sessions Judge was 16 sessions cases, 6 criminal appeals and 1 criminal revision petition.

Inadequacy of the remuneration paid to Government Pleaders.

298 *Q.*—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. he Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of districts in which the offices of Public 'rosecutor and Government Pleader are held by separate persons;

(*b*) the average monthly remuneration paid to each of these fficers during the past three months in each of those districts;

(*c*) whether the Government have considered the question f the adequacy of the remuneration of the Government Pleaders or the services rendered by them and, if so, what the result of he same is; and

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 881 infra.

[27th March 1939

(d) whether the Government have received any representations from any Government Pleader in regard to this matter?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement[a] is laid on the table of the House. These figures are however not a fair indication of the earnings of Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors as they cover a very short period and are obviously influenced by such fortuitous factors as whether a large fee in one important civil suit has been paid or whether the work in a Sessions Court has been particularly light or heavy for a short period.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

(d) The answer is in the affirmative.

Extent of arrears of civil cases cleared by the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Tirunelveli.

299 Q.—SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state with reference to the District Court of Tirunelveli—

(a) the number of civil appeals from the decisions of (i) District Munsifs, (ii) Subordinate Judges, and (iii) Revenue Courts and of original petitions pending disposal on 1st January 1939 for more than (1) six months, (2) one year, (3) two years and (4) three years;

(b) whether the Additional Sessions Judge was invested with the powers of a District Judge with a view to clearing off arrears and, if so, when and for what period;

(c) the number of civil cases transferred to the Additional District Judge and disposed of by him; and

(d) the extent of arrears cleared by the appointment of the Additional District and Sessions Judge?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to unstarred question No. 297.

Number of irrigation works in the Circars damaged during the recent cyclone and the extent of the damage.

300 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of tanks, canals and river banks and anicuts all over the area in the Circars damaged during the recent cyclone and unusual rains; and

(b) the estimated value of damage caused in each case?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 882 infra.

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Accurate and detailed information regarding the number of tanks, channels, etc., damaged by the floods is not available and has been called for.

Measures to enforce the provisions of the compulsory elementary education scheme.

301 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of boys of school-going age in each municipality in which compulsory elementary education is introduced in this Province;

(*b*) the number of boys that do not attend such schools in each municipality; and

(*c*) what steps have been taken to reduce such number?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

(*c*) Local bodies are taking action against defaulters under the rules framed under section 51 (1) of the Madras Elementary Education Act. Besides, the municipal supervisors of schools, inspecting officers of the department, teachers employed in schools and the attendance committees are taking steps to bring under instruction pupils not at school, and action is being taken on the defaulters' lists prepared by the headmasters of schools and scrutinized and revised by the attendance committees.

Abolition of aided elementary schools in all the municipalities working the compulsory elementary education scheme.

302 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of aided elementary schools in each municipality in which compulsory education has been introduced;

(*b*) the total amount of grants given to such schools in each municipality; and

(*c*) the reasons for incurring such expenditure by the Government when the municipalities have provided for the education of the boys within their areas?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement[b] containing the particulars is laid on the table.

(*c*) In compulsory areas, municipal schools alone cannot meet in full the demand for school places. It is therefore desirable to retain aided schools.

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a Printed as Appendix VII on page 883 infra.

b Printed as Appendix VIII on page 884 infra.

[27th March 1939

Selection of students for admission into Queen Mary's College, Madras.

303 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications for admission received in Queen Mary's College, Madras, this year;

(*b*) the number of applicants refused admission;

(*c*) the districts to which the applicants who were refused admission belong;

(*d*) the reasons for such refusal; and

(*e*) the number of students that this college can accommodate in each class?

A.—(*a*) 250.

(*b*) & (*c*) 108. These belonged to one or other of all districts except Vizagapatam, Trichinopoly and Ramnad.

(*d*) Some were refused admission on account of lack of accommodation and others because of their poor attainments which indicated that they would not profit by a college course.

(*e*) The number of students the college can accommodate in each class is—

Junior Intermediate class	...	80
Senior Intermediate class	...	80
Junior B.A. class	... ...	40
Senior B.A. class	... ...	40
Total	...	240

Disposal of applications under the State Aid to Industries Act in 1938–39.

304 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications received up till now under the State Aid to Industries Act in 1938–39;

(*b*) from whom;

(*c*) for what purposes; and

(*d*) how they have been disposed of ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to statements Nos. III and IV furnished in reply to answer to Legislative Assembly unstarred question No. 288.

27th March 1939]

Quantity and value of silk produced in this Province last year.

305 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state in respect of last year—

(*a*) the various places where silk was produced in this Province;

(*b*) the quantity produced at each place; and

(*c*) the value of the same ?

A.—(*a*) Silk is produced mainly in Kollegal taluk of Coimbatore. The other centres where seed cocoons are mostly produced and which show promise of development of sericulture industry are:

(i) Palmaner area of the Chittoor district;

(ii) Hosur taluk including Berikai Zamindari of the Salem district;

(iii) Pudupettai area of the North Arcot district; and

(iv) Vadakangulam area of the Tirunelveli district.

(*b*) & (*c*) The quantity produced has been estimated at 111,000 lb. valued at Rs. 5,53,000.

Filling up of vacancies in the several grades of Sub-Inspectors of Police.

306 *Q.*—SRI N. RANGA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the vacancies in the several grades of Sub-Inspectors of Police are left unfilled for the last four years on the ground of the application of the Orissa ban;

(*b*) whether the Orissa ban does not apply to the Sub-Inspectors in the Ceded districts;

(*c*) whether vacancies have been filled in the grade of Sub-Inspectors in Kurnool district;

(*d*) whether there is any special reason for not filling up the vacancies in the grades of Sub-Inspectors in Cuddapah, Anantapur and Bellary districts; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that when vacancies arose in Cuddapah district in the top grades of Sub-Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors of the neighbouring districts of the same grade were transferred to Cuddapah, depriving thereby the Cuddapah Sub-Inspectors of the benefit of promotion?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The ban on the filling of permanent vacancies in the cadre of Sub-Inspectors on account of the transfer of certain posts to the Orissa Province was confined to the districts in the Northern Range.

This ban, which was imposed in May 1935, was lifted in June 1936.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) Owing to a misapprehension of the orders of the Government the ban was taken to apply to the districts of Cuddapah, Anantapur and Bellary. The vacancies are now being filled up with retrospective effect.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

Leasing out of unsurveyed lands in the Ellore, Tadepalligudem and Bhimavaram taluks for the cultivation of second crop.

307 *Q.*—SRI G. VENKANNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how much land in the West Godavari district is surveyed and how much is unsurveyed;

(b) whether the unsurveyed lands in the Ellore, Tadepalligudem and Bhimavaram taluks are leased every year, on application, only to members of the scheduled classes, or to others also for the cultivation of second (dalva) crop;

(c) how much of the unsurveyed land was given on application during this year and the previous year for the cultivation of second crop;

(d) how much of the above land was given to members of the scheduled classes; and

(e) whether the Government have any objection to lease, on application, to the same people year after year the lands cultivated by the members of the scheduled classes?

A.—(a) The information is not tabulated in the ordinary course and it seems unnecessary to collect it for the purpose of this question.

(b) *to* (d) A report has been called for.

(e) Pending the final publication of the rules for assignment which are now under the consideration of the Government, any continuity of occupation which might give rise to fancied claims for assignment is undesirable.

Measures adopted by the District Labour Officer, West Godavari, to relieve the distress of the scheduled class people affected by the recent cyclone.

308 *Q.*—SRI G. VENKANNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Labour Officer, West Godavari, visited the hamlets of the scheduled classes, which were affected by the recent cyclone;

(b) if so, which of them; and

(c) what steps have been taken by him to help those in distress?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) All necessary steps to help all classes of people in distress (including the scheduled classes) in the cyclone affected area were taken by the Tahsildars and Revenue Divisional Officers concerned and also by the Collector of the district. There was no occasion for the District Labour Officer to visit any particular areas for the same purpose.

Action, if any, taken by Government on the proposal for an Industrial Home at Ellore.

309 Q.—Sri G. VENKANNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any requests to start an Industrial Home at Ellore with a view to improving handicrafts and agriculture; and

(b) what action the Government have taken on the requests?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The question does not arise.

Villages in the Cheyyar and Wandiwash taluks, North Arcot district, affected by the reclassification of irrigation sources during the settlement of 1913–14.

310 Q.—Sri D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased—

(a) to place on the table a list of the names of villages where additional percentage of enhancements was made in Cheyyar and Wandiwash taluks, North Arcot district, during the settlement of 1913–14 owing to the reclassification of Government irrigation sources; and

(b) to call for information regarding the amount of money expended on the said irrigation sources during the period 1883–1914?

A.—(a) Owing to their classification having been raised to accord with the actual quality of the source the assessment under 70 out of the 630 sources in the taluks of Cheyyar and Wandiwash was increased by more than the general percentage enhancement sanctioned for the taluks as a whole. In view of the answer to sub-question (b) the Government have

not thought it necessary to call for detailed information regarding the location of the seventy sources in question.

(b) The information asked for is probably not obtainable and the search for it would involve more labour and expense than Government feel justified in incurring for the purpose of preparing an answer.

Statistics regarding sugarcane cultivation in Gudiyattam Sugarcane Farm in 1937–38.

311 *Q.*—Sri B. T. SESHADRIACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the entire extent of sugarcane cultivation in Gudiyattam Sugarcane Farm in 1937–38;

(b) the extent of each variety of sugarcane cultivated in the said year in the said farm;

(c) the average gross yield per acre of each variety;

(d) the average expenditure thereon per acre; and

(e) the average net yield in money per acre of each variety?

A.—(a) The entire extent of sugarcane cultivation in the Sugarcane Research Station, Gudiyattam, in 1937–38 was 9·62 acres. The whole area was under experimental cultivation.

(b) Thirty-three varieties were studied in observation plots of 2·5 cents each. Among these varieties the promising ones were tried for their yield in 1·20 acres under two sets of conditions one with normal irrigations and manure, and another with restricted irrigations and manure. The rest of the area was under manurial and cultural trials.

(c), (d) & (e) Information relating to yield trials are given in the statement below:—

Variety.	Extent cultivated.	Average gross yield per acre of each variety in tons.	Average expenditure per acre per production of millable cane.			The average net yield in money per acre of each variety.		
			RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
(Normal treatment).								
Co. 408 ..	12 cents ..	59·48	248	2	0	346	11	0
Co. 419 ..	12 cents ..	56·83	246	7	0	321	12	0
Poj. 2878 ..	12 cents ..	48·53	241	2	0	* 244	3	0
J. 247 ..	12 cents ..	43·85	238	8	0	200	5	0
Striped Mauritius.	12 cents ..	28·69	226	10	0	30	4	0
(Restricted treatment).								
Co. 213 ..	12 cents ..	38·16	190	10	0	191	0	0
Co. 243 ..	12 cents ..	34·06	187	8	0	153	2	0
Co. 313 ..	12 cents ..	32·05	185	15	0	134	9	0
Co. 281 ..	12 cents ..	29·88	184	4	0	114	9	0
J. 247 ..	12 cents ..	27·30	182	5	0	90	11	0

* Remarks.—One ton of millable cane has been valued at Rs. 10 on the average.

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Abolition of capital punishment.

312 *Q.*—Sri C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many cases of capital punishments have come up before courts during the last two years;

(*b*) how many cases of capital punishments have been commuted into other sentences during the period; and

(*c*) whether the Government intend to abolish capital punishment altogether?

A.—(*a*) The number of persons sentenced to death in the years 1937 and 1938 was 143 and 147, respectively.

(*b*) The number of persons in whose cases the death sentence was commuted by this Government or the Governor-General in 1937 and 1938 was 33 and 47, respectively.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

Protest against the publication of an article in the "Tamil Arasu" of 15th December 1938, offering insult to the Catholic Church and its adherents.

313 *Q.*—Mr. J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received representations from Catholic associations and institutions protesting against an article appearing in the issue of the "Tamil Arasu" of 15th December 1938; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government propose to take against the editor and publisher?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The Commissioner of Police was instructed to warn the editor of the "Tamil Arasu" as well as the editor of another journal "Vinodan" which published an objectionable cartoon, to guard most strictly against offending the religious feelings of any community and to publish an apology. The editors were accordingly warned and they have each published an apology in the issue of "Tamil Arasu," dated 15th March 1939 and "Vinodan" of 4th March 1939.

Books purchased for the libraries attached to jails and the amount spent therefor.

314 *Q.*—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state with reference to the official year 1938–39—

(*a*) the amount that was sanctioned for purchasing books for the use of each of the libraries in jails;

(b) how much of it was actually spent; and

(c) the number of books purchased for the use of each library attached to Central Jails?

A.—(a) No amount was specifically provided in the budget on account of the purchase of books for jail libraries.

(b) A sum of Rs. 601-2-9 was spent.

(c) A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House.

Cattle-breeding centres in the Province.

315 Q.—Sri K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cattle-breeding centres in the Province;

(b) the number kept in each; and

(c) the revenue and expenditure for each in each of the last three years?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to starred question No. 323 given on 16th March 1938.

(b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to the Madras Agricultural Station Reports for the respective years.

Number of days toured and the amount of travelling allowances drawn by each of the members of the Board of Revenue during 1936–37, 1937–38 *and* 1938–39.

316 Q.—Sri KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the number of days toured by each of the members of the Board of Revenue during 1936–37, 1937–38 and 1938–39, and the travelling allowances incurred in that connexion?

A.—The information has been called for from the Board of Revenue.

Statistics regarding the amounts borrowed by Government since 1921 *and the manner of utilizing them.*

317 Q.—Sri GRANDHI VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what the amounts borrowed by the Government of Madras since the year 1921 are, showing the amounts borrowed in each year, up to date;

[a] Printed as Appendix IX on page 884 infra.

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(b) how the amounts borrowed were utilized, giving the years, the names of the districts and the works for which the amounts were spent; and

(c) what the percentage is of profit or interest the Government are realizing on the amounts spent on the respective works?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement [a] showing the particulars available is appended. The distribution of each year's borrowings according to districts or specific works on which they were spent is not available.

(c) The financial results of the capital Irrigation and Electricity Works are shown on pages 18—24 of the Finance Accounts, 1937–38, and those of the Government Commercial Concerns on pages 210 *et seq* of the Appropriation Accounts, 1937–38, copies of which were laid on the table of the House on the 23rd February 1939.

Formation of a Text-Book Committee for writing graded text-books on patriotic themes for elementary schools.

318 Q.—Sri C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any Text-Book Committee has been formed for the purpose of writing graded text-books for elementary schools for the purpose of infusing a spirit of patriotism and reverence for India's past?

A.—The functions of the Text-Book Committee are to examine the books submitted to the Committee and to recommend such of them as are suitable for adoption as Text-books. Writing text-books has never been the function of the Text-Book Committee.

Measures for imparting religious instructions in all the aided schools and colleges.

319 Q.—Sri C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken for the purpose of imparting religious instructions in all schools and colleges which are in receipt of Government grants?

A.—The hon. Member apparently refers to religious instruction in schools and colleges under private management. The question of providing religious instruction in these is one for consideration by the management concerned and the Government do not interfere in the matter.

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 885 infra.

[27th March 1939

Number of Debt Conciliation Boards in the Presidency and the number of scheduled class members appointed thereto.

320 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Debt Conciliation Boards constituted in this Presidency; and

(*b*) the total number of the members of the scheduled classes appointed to these Boards?

A.—(*a*) 92.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

Particulars regarding the ten-years' scheme of protected water-supply to the rural areas.

321 *Q.*—SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any priority list was drawn up and approved for the district of West Godavari with reference to the ten-years' scheme of protected water-supply to the rural areas;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) be in the affirmative, whether a copy of the list will be placed on the table of the House;

(*c*) how much money was allotted under the said scheme for expenditure in West Godavari district during the years 1937–38, 1938–39 and 1939–40; and

(*d*) out of the said allotments, if any, for the years 1937–38 and 1938–39, what amount was spent up to now and on what works?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) As the lists are long no useful purpose will be served by printing them. Copies of the lists are available in the offices of the Collector and the District Health Officer, West Godavari, and the hon. Member may refer to them if he desires to do so.

(*c*) No money was allotted in 1937–38. In 1938–39 a sum of Rs. 20,230 was provided. For 1939–40 the allotment has not yet been fixed.

(*d*) A sum of Rs. 654 has been spent in the current year up to the end of January 1939. There is no information as to the works on which it was spent. Information has been called for.

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Ameliorative measures for the Scheduled Castes in the Tirunelveli district.

322 *Q.*—SRI K. P. YAGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount spent annually for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes in the Tirunelveli district during the past five years;

(*b*) the proportion of such amounts to the total annual allotments for the Province during the period;

(*c*) the reasons for the low percentage of such expenditure in Tirunelveli;

(*d*) the reasons for the absence of a labour officer in the district all these years; and

(*e*) the steps Government propose to take to secure justice to the district in this regard?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Revision of the rules relating to land revenue remission.

323 *Q.*—SRI R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to revise the land revenue remission rules?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Abolition of the clerk sub-registrars' offices in the Province.

324 *Q.*—SRI R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the two clerk sub-registrars' offices in the Province are working at a loss; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to abolish them?

A.—(*a*) The Government have called for a report.

(*b*) The question will be examined on receipt of the report.

Transfer of the Kannamadai reserve forest in Tiruvannamalai taluk to the Irular community on mortgage terms.

325 *Q.*—SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received reports of any resolutions passed at the periodical conferences of the Irular community in Tiruvannamalai taluk during the last ten years;

(*b*) whether those people requested the Government to transfer to them on mortgage stipulations, the Kannambadi reserve forest in Tiruvannamalai taluk;

(*c*) if so, whether the District Collector of North Arcot and other officials took any steps thereon; if so, with what results; and

(*d*) whether the Government have any proposal to mortgage the above forest to them and, if so, when?

A.—(*a*) It is difficult to give the information for ten years. No such resolutions have been recently received.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) A report has been called for.

Bad diet arrangements and lack of bathing facilities in the Central Jail, Vellore.

326 *Q.*—SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the complaint made by the jail visitors to the Vellore Central Jail regarding the cooking and diet arrangements there;

(*b*) whether the Government received any complaint that as a result of some bad vegetables as *papai* served there, the prisoners suffered from sores in the eye and the body; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the prisoners in Vellore Central Jail are not allowed to have a bath daily; if so, whether the Government will consider the question of giving such facilities?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have received only one representation, which came from the hon. Member himself. The Government find that there has been no case in which a prisoner developed sores on the body after admission to the jail, and that vegetables of good quality are issued, the jail produce being supplemented by outside purchase whenever necessary.

(*c*) The answer to the first part is in the negative and the second part does not arise.

Rules governing the attendance of Honorary Bench Magistrates.

327 *Q.*—SRI V. KURMAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether there is any rule or order of the Government for the cessation of the office of Honorary Bench Magistrate in the case of a person absenting himself or herself from a specified number of sittings?

27th March 1939] [Sri V. Kurmayya]

A.—The Government have recently issued orders that if any honorary magistrate fails to attend five consecutive sittings of the bench court without the previous permission of the District Magistrate or the Chief Presidency Magistrate as the case may be, his powers as magistrate will be automatically withdrawn. Even before the issuing of these orders, continued absence without good reason was in practice regarded as a ground for considering the withdrawing of magisterial powers.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—DISCUSSION *re* CONDUCT OF MEMBERS IN THE HOUSE.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, will you kindly allow me to make a statement?" 3-45 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"About what?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—About what happened during question time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not think it is proper to take up the time of the House for making statements; but I will allow Mr. Hameed Khan to make a statement. But the only difficulty is this. So far as his conduct is concerned, he is unaware of the improprieties that have been taking place on the floor of the House, although hon. Members have been repeatedly informed that they ought to rise from their seats. I have repeatedly drawn attention to the parliamentary rule that members wishing to speak should rise from their seats, wait until their names are called and then address the Chair. Members ought not to address the other members. These elementary rules of debate are being infringed very often and it is a thing which Mr. Hameed Khan may not be aware of. Mr. Hameed Khan was speaking while sitting and after he had begun to speak, he began to rise from his seat and that is why I asked him to sit quietly. There is no use in members beginning to speak while sitting in their seats, causing confusion to the speakers, trying to exchange questions while the Ministers are speaking, crossing the Chair while business is being conducted and standing in the gangways and speaking. All these things must stop. These are elementary rules which I expect hon. Members to observe. No statement is called for unless Mr. Hameed Khan feels hurt."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I just want to say a word or two as to what exactly happened."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think I have observed it very closely and the hon. Member need not say anything about it. As I have already observed, he may not himself be aware of his conduct.

If, however, he still wants to say something in explanation his own personal conduct, he may do so. But if he wishes introduce any matter of controversy, I will have to stop him."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Am I take it, Mr. Speaker, that you will not allow me to make a stat ment?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I said I shall allow the hon. Member make a statement, if he does not raise any matter of controver but restricts his observation to his own personal conduct."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I wi explain what happened so far as I understand it."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAH DUR:—"May I be permitted to say a word, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Hameed Khan can speak for hin self."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAH DUR:—"It has nothing to do with him, Sir: it is quite a differe matter that I want to raise."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Hameed Khan can explain his ow personal conduct and afterwards Mr. Schamnad will be allowed speak."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I did n intend at any stage of the proceedings of the House to obstru the business of the House, much less to create disorder or conf sion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let it not be understood by the ho Member that that he was intentionally responsible for the brea of the rules of the House. I never said that the hon. Memb wanted to obstruct the business of the House or wanted to crea confusion. But rules are being broken by the members of th House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But I mus submit that the treatment that has been meted out to me at an rate is certainly not what was expected from the Hon. Speaker."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am sorry if Mr. Abdul Hameed Kha feels hurt."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"After wha has fallen from you, Mr. Speaker, I have nothing more to say an I shall leave it there."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members of this House must under stand that the rules and decorum of this House have to be observed If Mr. Schamnad has got anything to say about himself, but no about Mr. Hameed Khan, he can do so."

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KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, if you are not prepared to admit that there is difference between an interruption and making a speech? My submission is that according to parliamentary practice, in order to make an interruption, a member need not rise from his seat and wait till the Speaker calls upon him to make it. In most cases the interruption is but one word or a casual remark."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I might remind Mr. Schamnad that he himself has interrupted the Ministers a number of times by asking long questions, which, he ought to know, is not allowable."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I never did like that, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have myself drawn the attention of the hon. Member several times to the rule that if hon. Members want to put a question or elicit information, or give a personal explanation, they should rise from their seats. These things cannot be done while sitting. The whole House is interested in knowing what is passing on. In the case of exclamations which come up suddenly and spontaneously it cannot be expected that the member would rise from his seat. But so far as questions and personal explanations are concerned, however short they may be, they must be made standing so that the whole House and the Chair may know what is going on."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Such ordinary observations, we see from the proceedings, are made while members are in their seats."

MR. SPEAKER:—"At any rate, it will be a healthier practice to rise and speak; at least we shall set up a better example: let not hon. Members speak while sitting. I have noticed that hon. Members take a minute or even two uttering long sentences sitting. All these things must stop. So long as I am in the Chair, I will not allow it. The House is interested in these questions and in the explanations that are being given. I consider it a very elementary principle of decorum to rise and make these observations."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I am afraid that there has been a needless misunderstanding. Interruptions are common. But real interruptions sometimes do not really interrupt. Interruption is only a technical term. There are certain kinds of interruption which help the speakers and help to elucidate matters and do not disturb the proceedings. But interruptions may also easily become a source of disturbance like this: Supposing twenty persons do the same thing at the same time, it will be impossible for the Speaker in possession of the House to deal with all of them and the proceedings can well become disturbed. While Mr. Schamnad is perfectly legitimate in his claim that sometimes we can say 'Yes,' 'No,' 'Oh!' and so on, we

must all the same take the risk of being handled by the Speaker whenever he feels that the interruptions become real disturbance or are likely to become so. There are certain rights which are subject to the control of the Speaker and there are certain absolute rights. But if he feels that the proceedings of the House are disturbed by members interrupting while sitting, he may pull them up and ask them to get up before they want to make the observations. These rights are provisional and contingent rights and we should not imagine that the rights have been infringed."

(Interruption by Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.)

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I want to tell the hon. Member through you, Sir, that the observations now made are not interruptions; they help me to make my point clearer."

MR. SPEAKER:—" They are sudden exclamations and being spontaneous, a member may not be expected to rise."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I am afraid that I am furnishing proof in support of what I am going to say. Mr. Hameed Khan does not know it; but he has got into the habit of speaking from his own seat in order to help the speakers if he thinks that further elucidation is required and probably he also sometimes wants to make his own points a little stronger. But these would not be objected to by a speaker who can deal with it straightaway; but there are others who may not be able to deal with a number of interruptions like that, and in such a case Mr. Hameed Khan ought to be prepared to be told that he should not interrupt. Further, if a number of people begin to do it all together, the House will become a great murmuring gallery and there will be no order. It is only in that spirit that we understand the ruling given by you and I hope that Mr. Hameed Khan will not nurse any grievance."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am sorry that the Hon. the Premier has made things much more difficult. I thought that the question was settled after the Hon. Speaker expressed regret if I had been hurt and that the matter should stop there. But the Hon. the Premier was saying that I have got into the habit of speaking while sitting all the time, just as I tried just a moment ago to do what is called in parliamentary parlance an 'interruption.' I have been doing it, Mr. Speaker, for the last fifteen years without being objected to by the previous Presidents. I thought that that was the practice; and if I did it, I thought it was the most parliamentary way of doing it. But if such things become extensive and constitute a disturbance to the proceedings of the House, then I should be one with the Hon. the Premier in saying that it ought to stop. But I do not think that the Hon. the Premier intended to make out that I was directly or indirectly

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responsible for creating this sort of disturbance to a very large extent, and I would appeal to him not to entertain that idea in his mind hereafter."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"May I be permitted to say, Sir, that Mr. Hameed Khan does not really seem to know that he, of all the members of the House—I would ask him to tell us whether there is anybody else doing it—indulges in such things even as he did just now? But that is not all the thing. If one or two members have been allowed to do it not for one or two years but for twenty years, there will be no disturbance to the business of the House. But if other members claim the same right, it will become intolerable and it cannot be right for all time that only one member can have such a privilege. I simply said that we do not know sometimes what we are doing. As a matter of fact, Mr. Hameed Khan's interruptions may not affect some speakers; at times it may even help to clarify matters; but at times it may disturb some members. Is it not right, therefore, that we must adjust ourselves to one another? If I can stand a number of interruptions, that is only in relation to me; if another member cannot stand such interruptions he should be permitted to go on without interruption."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. 4
Speaker, . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it necessary that this representation and counter-representation should go on?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I have the privilege of knowing the Hon. Premier for a very long time, and he understands me also. Still I must say that to be urging the charge over and over again does not make a good case." (Laughter.)

III.—POINT OF ORDER *RE* LANGUAGE OF THE ASSEMBLY.

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"I would ask for your indulgence, Sir, to raise a point the decision on which will help to regulate my conduct. Three days back, the Leader of the Opposition made a request to you on my behalf asking you whether you would permit me to speak on the Education Demand, and you were good enough to say that if I speak in Tamil or if I am prepared to translate my speech in Tamil . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You could not do it."

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"The point is whether the Leader of the Opposition asked you to allow me to speak . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not remember his suggesting; I do not remember whether anybody asked me. Every hon. Member has got the right to rise in his place when he is here in the House.

Nobody need ask me whether he would be permitted to speak. The mistake has arisen a number of times; people have come to my chamber; sometimes half-a-dozen members have asked me to tell them whether they would be allowed to speak; and I have told them that if there was time I might ask them to speak. Very often it has happened that there was no time. Let there be no mistake; neither the hon. Leader of the Opposition nor any other member need come to me.

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Any way a statement has been made by the Chair that I would be allowed to speak provided I was willing to speak in Tamil or if I spoke in English, that I undertook to translate the speech in Tamil at the end."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You can speak in Tamil or English at your option. Those who can speak in English *may* if they choose render their speeches in any other tongue, that is, give the substance of their speeches in any other language known to them. If they can't, or won't, it does not matter.

" I repeat if any hon. Member is anxious to speak, he is allowed ten minutes, and he is entitled to speak in *any* language. If he speaks in English, he can speak for five or six minutes in English, and for the remaining minutes he *may* give, if he chooses, a rendering of the gist of his speech in any language he likes."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I want to know something about the ruling or observation made by the Chair: whether the leaders of groups have not got the right of arranging the names of speakers from their respective groups in a list and informing the Speaker about them."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Leaders of groups? Do you refer to the Leader of the Justice party? "

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Independent of these people there are a number of other groups."

MR. SPEAKER:—" May be. But if all people want to speak on the cut motion it is not possible. I have no objection to let as many people speak within the limitation of time, as possible, and I have always allowed it. But you see, members come and say to me:—' Mr. Schamnad Sahib has been allowed to speak on as many motions as he likes . . .' "

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Certainly not. I do not agree with that."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You have not been allowed? "

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I have spoken only on four cut motions."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it not sufficient?"

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Not on every motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You have been speaking on as many motions as you wanted to speak."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have been standing up several times and I have not been allowed to speak; all the same I do not complain about that."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"My approaching you on behalf of the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnamachariar was long before you gave your lengthy ruling. If it was after your lengthy ruling, in which you used the words 'if he so chooses,' I would not have come to you at all. So, when I came to you earlier at the request of Mr. Krishnamachariar, who said that he had stood up several times. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I would say with regard to these things that took place in private conversation—whether you came before the ruling was given or after it—these things that happened in private, ought not to be matters of discussion on the floor of the House. Then, many people will rise and ask me so many things. If the Leader of the Opposition comes to me and talks to me about so many things, are they to be matters of discussion on the floor of the House? It is not proper to do so; it is not fair either to the Chair, or to the Leader of the Opposition or the members concerned. It is not desirable that such a thing should happen, that people should claim to speak here what they wanted to say in private. In fact, so many things are said outside to me, but I should not take notice of them while sitting in this Chair; and it is not desirable that hon. Members should refer here to the things they might have told the Speaker in private conversation, things which they do not expect to be published. So, they should not speak about them. If hon. Members have anything to say on the floor of the House, let them state it here and not come to tell it to me privately. With regard to Mr. Krishnamachari's question, I stop further debate about it."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My question has not been answered: whether the leaders of parties cannot make out a list, when there are a number of members wishing to speak, of members from their respective groups and send the names to the Speaker, so that he may call out of the list the names of members in the order in which they are given."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The leaders may give the names of members wishing to speak; but the Chair does not lose its right to call

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the members. If the leaders give the names of a number of speakers, all the speakers cannot be called. There may not be enough time, for one thing."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" You can call them in the order they are given and not all."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Supposing one member has spoken six times and another member has not spoken at all, and both rise should not the latter be allowed to speak?"

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is not so."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The regulation of the business of the House is for the Speaker. Leaders of groups cannot tie down the hands of the Chair in regard to the procedure to be followed; they help the Chair; such help as they render is and will always be welcome."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If I have any question to fight out, it is for me to select the speakers who can put the case before the House effectively. It is not for the Speaker to call any muff from any party. (Cries of order, order.)"

MR. SPEAKER:—" I call upon the hon. Member to withdraw the word 'muff'."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I beg permission to withdraw the word, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is this sort of talk that I do not want hon. Members to indulge in. Simply because Mr. Schamnad was allowed to speak four times on cut motions and other junior members are not given an opportunity, it does not mean that they are muffs and that he alone is a distinguished member."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" He has withdrawn it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Senior members of this House, I have told them, must have consideration for new Members. I am bound to call upon new Members who have not spoken at all in the House,—not even once. If Mr. Schamnad should claim to speak on every motion, I will not permit it. I cannot understand Mr. Schamnad, a senior Member, saying that he should be permitted to speak as often as time permits. Surely if other Members want to speak he must be more indulgent."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is not I who want to speak, Sir. If I want a question to be put before the House, if I want any resolution to be brought

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and get it passed by a vast majority, I must select good speakers, in order to put it before the House well and explain matters so that we may press the question and convince the House."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Mr. Schamnad says that he alone should be allowed to regulate business. The Justice party consists only of fourteen members; the Muslim League consists of fourteen members; there is the European group; there is the Independent group; and Mr. Palat is claiming a group of four. (Laughter.) Is it possible to allow all their lists should they send in names? I will give the lists, my best consideration, and I have been giving the greatest consideration. At times the suggestion of hon. Members on the Opposition cannot be agreed to. For that matter the suggestions made by the hon. Members on the right wing have also not been agreed to at times."

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad :— " Sir, Mr. Krishnamachariar's point was that on account of certain conditions, he could not have an opportunity to speak . . ." 4-15 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER :—" Does the Leader of the Opposition know that I went away after the conversation that took place between him and the Chair, that the Deputy Speaker took the Chair and that I was away for about an hour or three-quarters of an hour? "

Kumararaja MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad :— " I cannot remember. I shall take the information given by the Hon. Speaker . . . "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I expected that Mr. Krishnamachariar would rise and that the Deputy Speaker would call Mr. Krishnamachariar's name. I was away for about 45 minutes. I understand that in fact, when the Deputy Speaker saw Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari stand up to speak, she wanted to give him an opportunity to speak. But when his turn came to be called, he was not in the House. Anyhow, these things cannot be talked on the floor of the House.

" There is one thing more. Certain hon. Members come to me and ask me to call their names immediately, so that they may go away after making their speeches. It is not fair to the House, although such indulgence has been shown to some Members and although as a matter of fact these things have been allowed. If it is only a request from one gentleman, it is allowed. But, supposing half-a-dozen people make such a request to me: ' Call me so that I may get away to attend a tea-party ' and so on; to grant such a request will be difficult. These things must be left entirely to the Chair."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—" I am sorry, Sir. What I wanted is a matter of information.

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Mr. SPEAKER:—" Information from me? Very good; I will give it."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" The point is that the Leader of the Opposition mentioned to me that the Chair said that if I could not speak in Tamil or translate my speech, I would not be called. If that is true, I only want your guidance with regard to regulation of my future conduct."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Krishnamachariar wants the guidance of the Chair, I suppose, for the future. If Mr. Krishnamachariar, can speak in any other language than English, and if he is so pleased as to translate or give the substance of his English speech in that language, he is welcome to do so. But there is no compulsion upon any Member of this House. I know certain people whose mother tongue is Tamil may not be able to speak in Tamil, may not be able even to render their speeches in Tamil; they may speak in English. All those who may not be able to speak in English effectively may choose their own language. If Mr. Krishnamachariar can speak in English very well he may speak in English; if he likes, he may give the substance of that speech in Tamil, and if not, he need not do so."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" The point is not really whether a person can speak in any other language or not. I suppose here we are left the choice; if I want to speak in English, I am permitted."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" According to rules no permission is needed. Anything more? "

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I accept the position; and with due respect to you, I propose to speak according to my own inclination. And that is why I would like to know whether it is a condition precedent to my being called that I should translate my speech in Tamil on future occasions."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" If you are willing to translate it, you are welcome."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" The only point is, what happens if I do not translate the speeches in Tamil? "

Mr. SPEAKER:—" You need not do it."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" The point is, can I rise at all? "

Mr. SPEAKER:—" You can always rise."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Will I be called at all? "

Mr. SPEAKER:—" You will be called if there are no other people rising and if you are the first to catch the eye of the Chair. You will certainly be called."

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* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I am not raising any question with regard to that matter. That is entirely your right; I know enough of parliamentary procedure to recognize it. The only point is, ' Does the mere fact that I would not speak, or translate a speech, in Tamil stand as a bar to my rising and catching your eye? ' That is just what was indicated from what according to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition you told him the other day. If that position still holds good I might as well quit the House.

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" On a point of order, Sir . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. the Leader of the Opposition is now perhaps on his trial. Evidently there is a quarrel between them."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I am not in that unhappy or unfortunate position. I do not happen to be under trial. This is only a very simple matter. It is only a question of the order of precedence for your consideration. You gave your long ruling with regard to the use of languages and to-day's remarks with regard to the future conduct of Mr. Krishnamachariar are exactly in accordance with the ruling.

" Sir, when Mr. Krishnamachariar approached me to find out from you whether he can have a chance to speak, and when I came to you—that was earlier than the long ruling.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Why do you say earlier than that? There was a ruling given on the previous day."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I was not present at the time of the ruling. I was not aware of the ruling. When Mr. Krishnamachariar told me that he rose several times and that you gave no chance to him to speak, I came and saw you. You then told me that he must speak in Tamil or in the alternative he must speak in English and then give a resume of it in Tamil. You did not say at that time to me that if the Member wished to translate, he might do so; i.e., just as you are now giving the voluntary choice, or any such thing. I communicated what exactly you told. That is the reason why my hon. Friend has commenced this discussion. The whole thing is a matter of the past and your ruling is a matter of the present for Mr. Krishnamachariar's guidance and all that matter may end there."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I do not quite understand the concessional spirit. It was never understood that there was any compulsion in the matter. It was suggested that it would be conducive to the proper understanding of the subject of the discussions by all Members, if those who can and are

willing, would utilize the notice given by the first bell to give the substance of their speeches in any language they liked. No one was ever under the impression that there was any compulsion in the matter."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" The Hon. Prime Minister will see that I never referred to the second ruling. I was referring to an earlier date . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I have been trying to be present at all times. I was present at the earlier time; then no ruling was given that gave rise to a different impression."

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" Am I to understand you to say, Sir, that this is a sort of brotherly obligation which Members speaking in English owe to non-English knowing members?"

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Exactly that."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I only want to tell the Hon. Premier that he had no knowledge of what I said to the Speaker except what I have now said in my statement here. I said that there was a request to the Chair by me and the reply which I communicated was much earlier than the long ruling."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Perhaps under a misapprehension."

KUMARARAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Most certainly not, as far as I am concerned. And that was responsible for Mr. Krishnamachariar's requesting the Speaker for guidance for the future."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Does anybody else want to speak? Hon. Members are invited to speak on this point, so that there may be an end of this. I will give as much time to this topic as possible so that hereafter people should not raise it again.

(After a pause.)

" Now, once more I will tell hon. Members the position, and that was always the position taken up by the Chair. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition, if he has misunderstood the Chair, he must feel sorry for that. There are occasions when people may not understand, and if they ask I will clarify it. The position is always this. People might speak in *any* language in which they are really capable of making themselves understood. If they are speaking in English, Members who do not know English want to know what is happening; and so if those speakers can also give the substance of their speeches in any language

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which they know, whether it is Tamil, Telugu or Hindustani, they will be helping the non-English knowing Members to understand the subject. Members speaking in English *may* give the substance in Telugu or Tamil and they are at perfect liberty not to do so. But Members knowing English ought not to obstruct Members not knowing English when they speak in these languages, or when they put supplementary questions in their own mother-tongue. That is the thing that is happening. Non-English knowing Members have cultivated a great amount of forbearance and patience on the floor of the House. But English knowing Members, immediately a Member not acquainted with English, not knowing even one word of English, gets up and speaks, begin to talk amongst themselves. They show no agreement; they show a sort of discontent when non-English knowing Members are speaking. If a non-English-knowing Member puts a supplementary question, an amount of discontent is shown by English knowing Members and they at once ask, 'What is it 4-
Sir, that is passing?' The Member, who does not know English P
has been patient when supplementary questions are put in English and when questions are answered in English, all these months. When the Members not knowing English request a translation or something, at once there is some sort of discussion. This Legislature is not intended solely for English knowing Members, let it be understood. The Chair is bound to protect the interests of every Member of this House. Simply because they are vocal, English knowing Members cannot be allowed to engage cent per cent of the time of the House. Although Telugu and Tamil knowing Members who cannot speak English have risen a number of times, out of seniority, out of deference, people in the Opposition who know English have been called on to the prejudice of non-English knowing Members. But that cannot take place always. There is a limit. These non-English knowing Members have been approaching me in my chamber and even at my residence that they should be given every opportunity and equal opportunity on the floor of the House as English knowing Members. I have tried to give such opportunities hitherto and I shall try to give such opportunities to non-English knowing Members as to English knowing Members hereafter in this House. They have requested English knowing Members to give the substance of their speeches in any language which they know. If Members are pleased not to grant their request, they are at liberty to do so; because, although they have asked for the appointment of interpreters it is not possible for the Government or the Chaïr to appoint interpreters. It is not possible because interpreters who are not Members of the Legislature cannot address this House, and the Government must appoint interpreters from amongst the members of the Legislature. Even then it is not possible to work it. I have very carefully considered this question. If an English speech

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is to be rendered into so many languages, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada or Urdu, it is not possible; similarly for a Telugu speech to be translated into Tamil, English and other languages is not possible.

" The method I have suggested is only a working arrangement which leaves the difficulty unsolved. It only minimises the inconvenience to the non-English knowing Members of this House. They cannot be expected to sit on the floor of the Legislature deaf and dumb—both deaf and dumb, because they can only hear the noise of the English speech. They must also be expected to take an intelligent interest in the proceedings of this House. Every hon. Member is expected to help them; even Ministers after their speeches are finished, if they so choose, may give the substance in Tamil, as the Hon. Dr. Rajan did the other day and as the Hon. the Prime Minister also did the other day. It will relieve the fatigue of sitting for five hours on the floor of the House. Hon. Members of the Opposition also will please try, though they have not the habit, though they may not have possessed the habit hitherto, to give the substance of their English speeches in any of the Provincial languages in two or three minutes. Surely, Mr. Krishnamachariar may make an honest effort, however feeble an effort it may be. It is an appeal. Mr. Krishnamachariar, who is speaking very well in English may try. Tamil Members, who do not know English are more than twenty—probably, two dozen people. When they request him to give the substance in a few words in Tamil, he may be pleased to give the substance in that language. If he refuses to do so, there is no obligation. But at least he may respect their sentiments; and if he cannot do it, probably he is sorry that he cannot. So, this is the rule and hereafter without any more ado about it, the proceedings of this Legislature will go on to the maximum satisfaction of all the Members concerned and not merely the English knowing Members. (Hear, hear.)"

IV.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1938-39.

GRANT I—LAND REVENUE.

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I beg to move—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,02,000 under Grant I—Land Revenue.*'

" The particulars are stated in the Explanatory Note on pages 6 and 7 of the paper laid on the table."

* SRI R. M. PALAT :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *that the allotment of Rs. 1,02,000 for Land Revenue be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

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" I have given notice of this cut motion in order to call the attention of the Government to the absolute necessity for granting further land revenue remission in Malabar this year. My case is partly based on the fact that the revenue rules have not been observed in the resettlement in Malabar and partly on the effects of the failure of the rains. Sir, it is a well established principle in all resettlement operations that the classification of any plot or piece of land should not be altered, I mean, altered into a higher class, unless the Government have contributed towards the improvement of that land. That is, for instance, if the improvement is due entirely to the efforts of the ryot, that is, if the ryot had by his labour and without any help from the Government converted single crop land into double crop land by either lowering the level of the land in order to enable it to retain more water, or by the digging of wells or by other means, there should be no reclassification of such land into a higher class. This principle is observed in the settlement of every district in this Presidency except Malabar, and I understand, also South Kanara.

" Now, Sir, I am going to give some figures. The land revenue from Malabar in fasli 1340, i.e., when the settlement had just commenced, was Rs. 34,72,642 and in fasli 1347, i.e., in 1937–38, at the end of the settlement, Rs. 50,97,229. That is, there was an increase of Rs. 16,24,587 in these seven years. I have got these figures from the Revenue Administration Reports. In those reports it is repeated year after year, that that year's increase in the land revenue is due to resettlement operations. So we may take it that practically the whole of this increase in revenue is due to resettlement and very little to any other cause. I have pointed out that there was an increase of Rs. 16,24,587 on the original figure of Rs. 34,72,642 or speaking in thousands an increase of 16,24,000 on Rs. 34,72,000, i.e., over 46 per cent. That is, we have an increase on an average of about 46 per cent while the official maximum increase is only $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. That is, there is an increase of $27\frac{1}{4}$ per cent more than the maximum purported. And this increase is due to the complete ignoring and disregard by the Government of their own revenue rules as to reclassification of land in the resettlement of Malabar. The failure of the rains this year has brought into prominence this complete ignoring of the revenue rules. If the maximum rate of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent had been levied throughout Malabar which again would have been unjustified, as Malabar had no rains this year, we would still be entitled to a permanent remission of $27\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of Rs. 34,72,642 or roughly of about Rs. 9,40,000. That is, Sir, if the ordinary rules had been observed, we would have been paying this year a land revenue of Rs. $9\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs less than what we actually pay. In addition to this we would be entitled to a substantial reduction on account of the failure of the rains instead of the miserable Rs. 20,000 that has been announced as the amount

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of our total remission; so that when lakhs are remitted in other districts, i.e., in districts which had the advantage of being fairly treated in the matter of settlement, we, who have been unfairly treated are entitled to a minimum under the present rules of Rs. 9,40,000. We who are entilted to this minimum are given only a remission of Rs. 20,000 out of a Presidency remission of about 50,00,000 rupees. This is, I beg to submit, most unfair and unjust. We were under the impression that when the Hon. the Revenue Minister himself had noted and admitted in this House the failure of crops over large areas in Malabar, that his opinion would prevail over that of his subordinates and that he would have been ashamed to come forward and announce in this House the complete over-ruling of himself by one of his subordinates and in entire contradiction to what he himself had noted. I had great hopes that a gentleman of Mr. Prakasam's sincerity of purpose would have seen that justice would be done. Sir, if an Hon. Minister—I am speaking generally of Hon. Ministers—if an Hon. Minister is unable to see that effect is given to what he himself has provisionally promised, then there is very little point in any Minister going on tours through the Presidency, to correct the reports of the subordinates and to enquire into the grievances of the people. As the Hon. Minister has acted thus I regret very much that he has not righted this wrong which has been done to our district.

"I saw from the 'Hindu' of last Saturday that a deputation of some of the Congress M.L.As. from Malabar waited on the Revenue Minister on that date. They could have waited on the Revenue Minister much earlier if they thought that waiting on him would have done any good. I am merely saying that this deputation waited on the Hon. the Minister after we had received a representation from the Malabar District Board addressed to all the Malabar M.L.As. and after the Malayalees in Madras had, at a meeting, requested them to resign their memberships rather than continue in their present course and after I had actually tabled this cut motion and after some members of the Malabar District Board had come here. I wish Sir, that hon. Members on the Government side had taken the steps in this matter earlier rather than wait till all these things had happened. I only infer that the poor ryot in Malabar had made them wait in deputation on the Hon. Minister. And, I hope that the fact that they actually waited on the Minister would not now be taken as an excuse for not voting and what the newspapers have said, that the Minister has promised to appoint a special officer to look into the matter, would again, I hope, not be taken as an excuse for their not voting on this cut motion and voting on the right side."

4-45 p.m. THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"What is the salary you propose?"

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* SRI R. M. PALAT:—" I merely mentioned what I saw in the newspapers that the Hon. the Minister had promised that a special officer would be appointed to look into the matter. I am not even assured of the fact. I merely saw that in the newspaper. I do not vouch for the truth and I cannot say if even that has been done. That is all that I now want to put before the House. If, Sir, it is asked why we, on this side of the House, had not been to see the Minister the reply is obvious. We had not the least inkling that they were going to see the Minister. Our presence perhaps would not have added any weight in their opinion. Otherwise they would have asked us also to go with them. We are six of us on this side and they were seven from this House. We continue our membership of this House under the expectation and hope that we shall be able to do some good and because we owe a duty to our constituencies, and shall continue our membership till we are asked by them to resign. We on this side have been extremely anxious to table such a resolution as this for the reduction of the land revenue in Malabar and in fact I had given notice of a resolution about the Malabar Land Revenue Assessment and as the earliest private business day we happened to have was during the discussion on the Estates Land Act Committee's Report, sometime I believe in January, the Government proposed and the Hon. the Speaker accepted the Government proposal not to consider my resolution then although I pointed out at that time that there would be no use of my bringing a similar resolution after all the assessment had been collected. The representations now made of the Malabar Congress M.L.As is after the collection of the assessment. I do not know what is now proposed to be done by the Government on what they have proposed should be done.

" As I have mentioned already I have heard of the suggestion that a special officer should be deputed to inquire into the matter. This is shelving the questions. In my opinion, the excess percentage of 27¼ per cent must be remitted immediately. I do not know how many distraint warrants had been issued this year. In fasli 1931–32, i.e., just after the beginning of the resettlement 6,118 warrants were issued and in 1937–38, 18,803 were issued. This shows the great and increasing difficulty of the people in meeting the assessment demand. When the main budget demands were taken up, I had moved a token cut under land revenue and showed how we the ryots in Malabar are paying to the Government seven times more what the other classes pay. However, I hope that all the West Coast Congress M.L.As. as are here would vote for this cut and not either go out of this House or take any other course which will prevent their votes being recorded in favour of this cut motion. I hope they would remember that the country is greater than the Congress and there is no

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justification for the existence of the Congress unless it is for the benefit of the country; and although it would have been impossible for any of them to have been returned to this House if they had not stood on the Congress ticket, still I trust they would put their country's interests before their wish, if they still have the wish to retain their seats in this House. To the best of my knowledge there are only two Congress M.L.As.—I refer to Messrs. Raghava Menon and Abdur Rahman—who have seriously pressed for remission on their party. I hear they had gone to the extent of threatening resignation. How far it is true I do not know. Perhaps the Minister knows that. The interests of their country should come before blind obedience to the Ministry. What I have said refers *mutatis mutandis* to South Kanara and I trust that similar concessions should be shown to that district also."

Mahmud Abdur Rahman rose to a point of order when the Speaker was putting the question before the House.

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is why I say that members must sit quietly and watch the proceedings."

After the question was put to the House, the hon. Member was asked to repeat his point of order.

MAHMUD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I am told I have given the resignation. It is not correct. I have not sent the resignation to anybody."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" I have not stated that. I simply said that it was the rumour and that another member also had done so. Perhaps the Minister may be able to speak to that. I never said that he had resigned and I made it perfectly clear."

MAHMUD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know if he makes a statement, so that I may get in his party?"

SRI R. M. PALAT:—" Certainly not. I would strongly object to his joining this party."

A. K. KHADER KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, in seconding the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Palat, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the great injustice done to Malabar in the last resettlement in increasing the rate of assessment to a great extent. My hon. Friend mentioned that the increment was about 46 or 47 per cent. People were fighting rather hard to pay the existing land revenue and it was at such a time that this settlement also was forced on us. The Settlement Party never cared to do justice to the deserving parties, whereas they did their work to the detriment of the interests of the people. From personal experience, let me give an illustration. A certain gentleman from my own place had a plot of 16 acres in extent and it was considered a garden land and assessed accordingly. That particular land had nothing but the coconut garden and one or two jack trees. It has

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been paying a heavy assessment of about 40 rupees. He appealed to the Government for the remission of that tax and he got a reply that the wrong would be rectified by the settlement party. When the Settlement Officer was camping in my village, the gentleman represented his case to him and then he pleaded inability to do anything in the matter saying that he cannot reduce the existing rate. Subsequently, he did not pay the tax and the result was that the plot of land was sold in auction and there was no bidder. Government took the 16 acres for one anna. That was what the Government did in those days. I ask the Government whether they profit in any way by taking this land from the party and doing away with that 40 rupees every year. If they had given remission, he would have retained it himself and carried on his work. I mention this fact only to emphasize the urgent necessity for granting more substantial remission to the people of Malabar, who are now affected adversely by the failure of monsoon and falling prices. The chief products of Malabar are rice, pepper and coconut. These three have been hit so hard that the entire population, irrespective of being rich or poor, are suffering intolerably on that account. The Revenue Minister himself had visited the district and he heard the grievance of all sections of the people. If he had given substantial weight to the representations, we would have had just remissions. But we were utterly disappointed, as only Rs. 20,000 out of Rs. 50 lakhs is allotted to Malabar. Perhaps the Hon. Minister has forgotten to examine the question personally and in the usual routine course, the allotment must have been given to Malabar. Besides the Hon. the Minister, several non-official gentlemen who have seen the conditions had reported about the serious situation and asked for substantial remissions. It is now the considered opinion of all that the grant is extremely inadequate. The volume of non-official opinion is growing and gathering strength, as evidenced by the deputation that waited on the Hon. the Minister on the 25th instant. I hope the Hon. the Minister will carry out his promise to the deputation and increase the allotment."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend Mr. Palat referred to South Kanara. I represent South Kanara, as also some Members on the other side. All know what the conditions in South Kanara are. They are not different from those in Malabar, especially in climatic conditions and rainfall. In South Kanara the conditions are equally bad. I am sorry to find that no remission has been allotted to this district. In South Kanara, the crop depends on rains. It is a well-known fact that last year either the crops were washed away or became rotten on account of heavy rains and floods. The second crop failed for lack of rains. Therefore, Sir, though we have plenty of rainfall, the raising of crops depends upon seasonal rains and in

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South Kanara both the crops have failed. The case for South Kanara also deserves sympathetic consideration and I hope the Hon. the Revenue Minister, considering all aspects of South Kanara, will come to the rescue of South Kanara and give a substantial remission to that district."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I believe that during the general debate on the Budget and also on the Land Revenue Demand there was sufficient discussion on this matter. Further, the purpose of the cut motion given with regard to this further demand for expenditure was not very clear. It was difficult to understand from the notice what exactly the hon. Member was going to discuss. The notice was vague and though there was a reference to settlements, it did not give a clear idea of the object of the hon. Mover. I had an idea that, because some hon. Members believed that out of the 50 lakhs of rupees which the Government have been compelled to spend all over the presidency a proper proportion has not been assigned to Malabar, this cut motion was given notice of. Of course, the hon. Member raised also the question of the enhancement of tax during the settlement, the classification and the reclassification and the injustice of the enhancement made under the settlement. So far as classification, enhancement, etc., are concerned, hon. Members must be aware that the general policy of the Government has been enunciated before the general discussion of the Budget took place. But I may say that wherever there is any mistake made or error committed and the same is pointed out, the Government would be ready to correct it. It is on that account that the Government took so much time for the examination of the question with regard to the whole presidency and though that examination has reached a particular stage, what the hon. Members have pointed out with regard to the general questions will be borne in mind when completing the examination of the land revenue policy and land revenue assessment. The Government are aware of the conditions in Malabar just as they are aware of the conditions prevailing in the other districts of the presidency. Malabar district which is most favourably situated has come to suffer this year. Malabar, as I said already, is a district which can produce enough not only for that district, but also for other districts . . ."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—"A word of explanation, Sir. May I point out to the Hon. Minister for Revenue that Malabar imports rice and that we do not even produce enough rice for home consumption and that the soil of Malabar is one of the poorest in the presidency?"

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is not only Malabar that can produce enough and more rice, but there are other districts also in the same position. There are districts which were

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producing all that was necessary for consumption within their limits, but, for reasons of profit, they abandoned their old cultivation. There is a district which has taken to tobacco growing entirely. It has given up growing the necessaries of life within its limits, but is going to the neighbouring districts to purchase its requirements. It cannot be denied that Malabar, which is supposed to be the garden of the whole presidency, could, if it is properly cultivated and cultivation is properly attended to. . . The hon. Member is shaking his head indicating that it is not so."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Will the Hon. Minister resume his seat for a minute? "

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Yes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I want to know who the hon. Member is that has written this slip that was put into my hands? Hereafter . . ."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It is my slip, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I would like to know why the Hon. Minister did not raise the point directly? "

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, I thought that I could, by means of that slip, let the Speaker know what was passing in my mind."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is a very important point which the Hon. Minister has raised in his note. It is really a difficult matter for the Chair to decide. I would not have referred to the matter in this manner if I had known that it came from an Hon. Minister. It is probably embarrassing to the Hon. Minister to be told that he has raised this point. I was myself thinking from the very beginning that this important point could have been raised earlier and all the time taken so far on this cut motion saved. Now, the Hon. Minister will see that it has been raised at a time when the reply also has been mostly given. In this connexion I may, however, say that it would be better if such slips of paper are not put in my hands whether by Members or by Ministers."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" May I request you, Sir, to clear the position in regard to the point raised? "

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" May I have a word, Sir? I apologize to the Chair for having sent a chit in the way I did when the matter was passing in my mind. I did not want to raise a furore about it. But I did feel when the hon. Member for Malabar Landholders was speaking that he was traversing a subject which would not come under the Further Demand moved by my Hon. Colleague, the Revenue Minister. The Demand is specifically for settlement and survey operations in some places now taking place, and the usual practice,

as I understand the practice in the former Legislature—and in fact, a ruling was given by the President the other day in the other House . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not want that any such reference should be made."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I was only giving an analogy, Sir."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—"May I say a word, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the Hon. Minister finish."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The discussion raised by the hon. Member for Malabar Landholders was irrelevant to the Demand moved by my Hon. Colleague, the Minister for Revenue."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Should not this point have been raised at the very beginning?"

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I apologize to you, Sir, for not having raised it then. I thought I could raise it now at least for a ruling so that it may serve as a guidance for the discussion on similar demands to be moved hereafter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"At this stage there is difficulty. We have gone so far that even the reply is almost over."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—"Apart from that, I would like to submit . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will please resume his seat."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I too thought like that and that is why I sent a chit to you for which I apologized."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But what am I to do with this chit?"

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"You said that it is too late to give a ruling on this point now. At the next opportunity I shall raise the question for your ruling."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the reply may be finished now."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"After the hon. Mover had spoken on the cut motion at such length, when I started replying, I pointed out that the matters referred to by him were matters which should have been dealt with on another occasion and not now. I would have finished my reply within five minutes if those matters had not been raised. The need for this supplementary Demand has been explained in seven paragraphs in the note circulated to hon. Members and even this has not restrained the hon. Mover and the other hon. Members from feeling that they have been wronged in the matter of the distribution of the money. Sir, the hon. Mover himself said that the Government proposed to examine the matter by sending a special officer. That should have been sufficient. Representations were made, telegrams were sent

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and petitions were submitted to the Hon. the Prime Minister and myself without exactly knowing all about the matter. Questions were put, even after the general debate, with short notice and answers were given. If the hon. Mover of the cut motion had been following all these, he would not have made such a long statement extending even to other matters. But we are anxious Sir, on our side, to give a reply to the hon. Members who are under a mistaken impression that 50 lakhs of rupees are there to be distributed among the 26 districts of the Presidency. They forget that the Government were called upon, even without sufficient notice, to meet certain conditions owing to the failure of rain.

" And they were obliged to meet the situation as it arose. The Government are not unaware of the fact that although some of the 26 districts are supposed to be prosperous on account of delta and other facilities that they enjoy, and on account of the fact that certain rivers flow through them and there is wet cultivation, still there are certain uplands in those districts, where there have been no rains, there is no water even to drink, and suffering is going on in most of the districts in this way. Are we expected to find money to distribute it to all people in all the districts and do we pretend to be able to give relief to all the people that are undergoing suffering? It is not so. This is an extraordinary year in which we are faced with such a situation and we are obliged to deal with that situation in the manner in which we have done. Some of the hon. Members who do not understand these things properly seem to think 'how is this distribution going on; who is doing it; and who are the people on whose information the Government are acting?' These doubts arise in their minds. It has been pointed out that the Hon. Minister has gone to the particular place under reference and he has agreed to give some relief to the suffering people there and yet here is a subordinate who has over-ruled him (the Hon. Minister). Sir, I would point out there must be a limit to our imagination. Nobody denies that the Revenue Minister went to the place. The Revenue Minister spent about four or five days in the whole district of Malabar and there was complaint only in the South Malabar. There was no complaint in the North Malabar. The conditions in North Malabar had to be further examined in a different way and with a different purpose. The hon. Member on the other side corrects me. I stand corrected but I would not say that the whole of North Malabar enjoyed complete prosperity, because it is not possible . . ." 5-1 p.m.

* SRI R. M. PALAT :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I believe that the Hon. Minister Dr. Subbarayan's reference has completely side-tracked the mind of the Hon. the Revenue Minister. What I said was that in the resettlement that was made in Malabar that district was not treated properly. If the resettlement had been properly conducted we would have been entitled to a remission of land revenue. I raised that point in order to

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explain my position. My further point was that this year is a famine year and the position is quite different from what it would have been at other times, i.e., normally. If the Hon. the Minister would refer to my speech he would find that my reference to resettlement was in this way, viz., that the rules were not observed properly and if they had been observed properly we would be entitled to get a remission of 9 lakhs and odd. I said that, apart from this fact, the famine conditions prevailing this year made the position acute and so we are compelled to press on the Government the difficulty prevailing in our district and that we should not be treated unfairly and unjustly. So my cut motion is quite in order as it refers mainly to the resettlement operations."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I have already given an answer to that. I do not believe that the hon. Member who moved the cut motion and myself can sit on the floor of this House and work out the settlement figures and come to a decision. He made a certain statement and I gave an answer that whatever he said would be examined. If there is an error it will be corrected on examination. I do not believe that any Member of this House would expect the Governmet to place all their books on the table, call the Settlement Officers and examine them to find out whether what was done by them is correct or incorrect. Hon. Members were saying that the Hon. the Revenue Minister saw the place and he made a promise and it was over-ruled. What I saw there is known to hon. Members here. I did not carry the Paimash register with me when I went there. I did not enter into the fields there. What one could see under those circumstances was whether the crops had failed completely. As the car was running at a distance from those fields, one would be able to notice only whether the crops had failed completely or not. Hon. Members therefore, should not pin the Hon. Minister to any statement that he might have made saying that he promised so and so and made a breach of that promise. Hon. Members should not so lightheartedly say that the Hon. Minister made such and such a promise and things like that. Under these circumstances I shall not be saying anything more about the complaint made about the inadequacy of the amount of remission that would be given to Malabar.

I would like to know from hon. Members whether it is their case that there has been failure of the second crop in Malabar or the first crop also. My hon. Friend Mr. Schamnad Sahib wants me to add South Kanara to Malabar. I shall add South Kanara also. Do they ask the Government that owing to failure of second crop in Malabar and parts of South Kanara they should be treated in the same manner in which the flood and cyclone affected districts should be treated? There has been complete failure even of the first crop in the Coimbatore district which is the next door neighbour to Malabar. After examining the conditions there we were obliged to start test works and convert them

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into relief works afterwards. In this manner the amount to Coimbatore district increased. What is the good of simply taking a particular figure, say, 50 lakhs of rupees, and saying that 'you have given Rs. 20,000 to a certain district but we have not got the same amount?' Examine the conditions of each district and you will find whether the money given to particular districts has been given on a large scale or not. Even here when it was said that the estimate made was wrong and the suffering of the people was very great, the Hon. the Prime Minister at once noted it and a promise was given that a special officer would go there and look into the matter. With that assurance, one ought to have been satisfied. Nothing more could have been done and what all could be done has already been done. You start on a wrong understanding of the matter and proceed to attack the Government. I say it is impossible for a Government to find money to give full relief to all the sufferers in this land. Because after all this Government belongs to the people, hon. Members should not imagine that it has come from England or France to fleece any amount of money from the people. You have heard of the taxation proposals that will be placed before the country. Why are those taxation proposals made? It is with a view to meet situations like this. Hon. Members should not be under the mistaken impression that what is normally possible is not being done. Everything that is normally possible is being done.

"About Malabar land revenue system, I would only say that the Government are thinking of appointing a Committee to go into the question of Malabar land tenures, because they do not come under the general land revenue policy of the Government on account of the special forms of tenures prevailing there. Whatever hon. Members would consider necessary in that direction will be done and only if they would co-operate with the Government in this direction, all that is necessary to give relief to the ryots of jenmis will be done.

"So far as South Kanara is concerned, my hon. Friend Mr. Hussain did not wish to keep quiet. Because a reference was made in his speech to other districts, I do wish to say this. I do envy people coming from Malabar and South Kanara for the geographical situation and other facilities which they enjoy over other districts. But I may say they are also suffering. So far as South Kanara is concerned, wherever there are special conditions prevailing requiring redress from the Government they are being attended to from time to time. But with regard to the general line of revenue policy that is being adopted with regard to that district, I think there is no cause for complaint.

"In view of what I have explained, I hope the hon. Member who has moved the cut motion would withdraw it. This is not a motion on which the debate should have taken the turn which it

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has now taken as pointed out by my Hon. Colleague, Dr. Subbarayan. But having regard to the special circumstances that have arisen in regard to this subject it is as well that the subject should have been debated in that manner."

SRI R. M. PALAT:—"I would like to have a voting and a poll on this motion."

The cut motion was put to vote and declared lost.

Sri R. M. Palat demanded a poll and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
2 Abdur Rahiman Ali Rajah, Arakal Sultan.
3 K. Abdur Rahman Khan Sahib Bahadur.
4 Sri Adimoolam Jamedar.
5 M. Ahmed Batcha Sahib Bahadur.
6 Sri Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai.
7 Khan Bahadur P. M. Attakoya Thangal Sahib Bahadur.
8 Sri B. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu.
9 S. Ghouse Mohideen Sahib Bahadur.
10 H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur.
11 A. K. Kaderkutti Sahib Bahadur.
12 Sri G. Krishna Rao.
13 Kumararaja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.
14 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
15 Mir Akram Ali Sahib Bahadur.
16 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
17 Sri R. M. Palat.
18 D. Saiyed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
19 V. S. T. Shaik Mansoor Tharaganar Sahib Bahadur.
20 Sri Grandhi Venkata Reddi

Noes.

1 Srimathi G. Ammanna Raja
2 Sri B. Anantachar.
3 „ Muthu Kr. Ar. Kr. Arunachalam Chettiyar.
4 „ V. Bhuvarahan.
5 „ P. Buchappa Nayudu.
6 „ A. Chandoo.
7 „ K. Chandramouli.
8 „ G. Chelvapathi Chetti.
9 „ O. Chengam Pillai.
10 „ T. S. Chokkalingam Pillai.
11 „ M. P. Damodaran.
12 „ M. Duraikannu.
13 The Hon Sri V. V. Giri.
14 „ Sri B. Gopala Reddi.
15 Sri C. K. Govindan Nayar.
16 „ V. J. Gupta.
17 „ S. Guruvulu.
18 „ A. Jogi Nayudu.
19 „ A. Kaleswara Rao.
20 „ K. Kamaraja Nadar.
21 „ A. Karunakara Menon.
22 „ K. Kolandavelu Nayanar.
23 „ K. Koti Reddi.
24 „ L. Krishnaswami Bharati.
25 „ P. S. Kumaraswami Raja.
26 „ K. Kuppuswami Ayyar.
27 Srimathi A. V. Kuttimalu Amma.
28 Sri P. Lakshmanaswami.
29 Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal.
30 Dr. N. Lakshmi Devi
31 Sri P. Madhavan.
32 P. K. Mohideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur.
33 Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur.
34 The Hon. Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
35 Sri S. Nagappa
36 „ S. Nagayya.
37 „ D. Narayana Raju.
38 „ K. V. Narayana Rao.
39 „ M. P. Periaswami.
40 „ B. Perumalla Nayudu.
41 The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam.
42 Sri D. S. Prasad.
43 The Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar.
44 Sri A. K. A. Ramachandra Reddiyar
45 „ R. B. Ramakrishna Raju.
46 „ T. N. Ramakrisha Reddi.
47 „ A. Ramalingam.
48 The Hon. Sri S. Ramanathan.
49 Sri D. V. Ramaswami.
50 „ K. S. Ramaswami Goundar.
51 Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi.
52 Sri A. S. Sahajanandam.
53 „ V. J. Samu Pillai.
54 „ P. R. K. Sarma.
55 „ L. Sattanantha Karayalar.
56 „ B. T. Seshadriachariar.
57 „ K. Shanmugham.
58 „ K. A. Shanmuga Mudaliyar.
59 „ H. Sitarama Reddi.
60 „ J. Sivashanmugam Pillai.
61 „ D. Srinivasa Ayyar.
62 „ Kallur Subba Rao.
63 „ M. Subba Rao.
64 The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.

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Noes—cont.

65 Sri P. Subbiah.
66 „ A. Subramaniam.
67 „ K. V. R. Swami.
68 „ K. Varadachari.
69 „ N. S. Varadachari.
70 The Hon. Sri C. J. Varkey.
71 Sri G. Venkanna.
72 „ Gopavaram Venkata Reddi.
73 Sri P. T. Venkatachari.
74 „ S. C. Venkatappa Chettiyar.
75 „ R. Venkatappa Nayudu.
76 „ K. Venkatappayya.
77 „ P. Venkatarama Ayyar.
78 „ V. Venkatasubbayya.
79 „ K. P. Yagneswara Sarma.
80 The Hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan.

Neutrals.

1 Mr. H. S. Town.
2 Mr. D. M. Reid.

Ayes 20. *Noes* 80. *Neutrals* 2.

The cut motion was lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made. 5-45 p.m.

GRANT VI—MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS.

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,54,800 *under Grant VI—Motor Vehicles Acts.*'

" The reasons for this Demand are explained in the Explanatory Note circulated to hon. Members."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES, MINISTERS AND HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 20,700 *under Grant VIII—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.*' "

Sri R. M. PALAT who had given notice of a cut motion being absent, his cut motion was deemed to have been withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XIV—ELECTRICITY.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 7,34,700 *under Grant XIV—Electricity.*' "

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XV—EDUCATION.

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY :—" I beg to move, Sir—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 6,200 *under Grant XV—Education.*' "

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XVI—MEDICAL.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 100 *under Grant XVI—Medical.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XIX—VETERINARY.

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,97,800 *under Grant XIX—Veterinary.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XXI—INDUSTRIES.

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 86,600 *under Grant XXI—Industries.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 9,500 *under Grant XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XXIV—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move, Sir—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 44,200 *under Grant XXIV Civil Works—Works.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XXV—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move, Sir—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 200 *under Grant XXV—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XXXIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRIC SCHEMES.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 8,13,900 *under Grant XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Electric Schemes.*' "

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT XXXIV—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 100 *under Grant XXXIV—Capital Outlay on Civil Works.*' "

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

V.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The voting of Demands for Grants for the ›ar 1939–40 will now continue."

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 20,11,100 *under Demand XVIII—Agriculture.*' "

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, I move the cut otion that stands in my name, viz.—

'*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 20,11,100 *for Agriculture by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, my object in moving this cut motion is to discuss the licy of the Government in regard to the Agriculture department. ; the outset, Sir, I may say that I am inclined to compare this partment to a door which moves on its hinges. There is a great al of movement, but there is no progress. Though this department has a top-heavy expenditure and a well-established cadre of blic officials and a large paraphernalia of Government servants, ım afraid it has not made any progress in the sense that it has t benefited the poor ryots for whose benefit this department has ən carrying on its work—I mean in the sense that it has not been any practical value to the tiller of the soil who is engaged in ə industry of agriculture. Sir, we have to complain about this—rhaps it is an old complaint, and perhaps the Minister has heard many times; but I think it can bear repetition in this House till ə desired improvements are brought about in this department, ., to make it useful and practical, in the true sense of the term,

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answer. Unless Government take steps to bring the researches nearer the home of the ryots, I do not think it can be said that this department has been really doing any useful work. The ryot should be made to understand the advantages of improved methods of agriculture, raising of scientific crops—food crops as well as marketable crops. But, this present method of demonstration and propaganda carried on are not really helpful to the interests of the agriculturists; and it should be done in an effective manner and popularized in such a manner that the ryots should have no doubt whatsoever with regard to the scientific methods of agriculture.

"Now, Sir, there are three difficulties which the Government have to contend against. The first is, in regard to the matter of education. We all know that rural areas are badly in need of educational facilities and there is a deep-rooted repugnance with regard to scientific methods of cultivation because they have no belief in them. There is another belief, that is, that it is not possible for the ordinary ryot to achieve what the Government are able to achieve in their demonstration farms. Government have to contend against all these difficulties and find a solution for them. I would appeal to the Hon. Minister in charge of Education to be more active with regard to rural areas, because in these days everything is based on education. If you want scientific methods of agriculture to progress in this country, if you want public health to prosper in this country, if you want to make the co-operative movement to progress and if you want such other things which go really to help the rural population to get on, I suppose we have got to lay the foundation on some kind of education or enlightenment of the masses in regard to these matters. I am sure that Government will be able to tackle the problem, to see that all these departments work properly and effectively, which could only be achieved if a certain amount of education is given to the poor people or, at least, some kind of enlightenment in this direction is given. If the Government really tackle this problem in earnest, I think the progress of the province will be greater and more commensurate with the efforts of the administration.

"I do not know, Sir, how many ryots really benefit by the researches made by the department and how many of them know that these researches, if applied, will improve their economic condition and the outturn of the various holdings. Sir, it is well known that they are notoriously uneconomic. It is therefore the primary duty of the Government to improve the holdings as much as possible and also help the ryot. Recently, Sir, I read some literature about the agricultural operations carried on in other provinces and that in Orissa they are doing a very wise thing. There, they take to agriculture in right earnest by having what are called 'subsidized farms' on large holdings of the ryots. I do not think that the present method of having trial plots and carrying on operations in those small plots in any particular holding in particular villages

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will be of much help. The present system is not satisfactory, because it is fragmentary and it is not able to give a complete and comprehensive idea of any particular crop to the ryot. But, I would like to point out that the Orissa method, which is a modified and enlarged method, gives a better idea to the ryot. According to this arrangement, a typical farm is taken and each ryot is given 5 acres and he is asked to raise only a single crop; and he should raise the crop suggested by the supervisor of the department and under strictly official methods laid down. He will of course be supplied seed and manure at concessional rates and a maistri is asked to assist him, so that the farmer is made familiar with the rotation of crops, scientific methods of growing crops and reaping the harvest and so on from first to last. That is the kind of demonstration which, I think, this Government might try and adopt usefully in the matter or popularizing scientific methods of agriculture. It is not enough that field should be taken up merely for demonstration. It should be the effective means of transmitting to the country side the fruits of the researches made by the department. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister for Agriculture to start this 'subsidized farm' method in our Province also.

"Then, Sir, with regard to researches, I would like to say one word. I do not mind if the researches of the Agricultural department are stopped for one or two years, and I do not think any great cataclysm will happen to the Province if they stop them. I would like them to see whether the researches so far made have been utilized for the benefit of the people, so that they may know whether they have been actually put to their benefit in the matter of growing crops and in other directions. I do not believe in perpetual research work without giving any scope for the people to benefit by them.

"Speaking on this subject, Sir, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister what the Government have done so far, or whether they have got any progressive ideas, about Electro-culture. I have heard that some electro-culture methods have been adopted and that they have better response from crops as well as fruit trees. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister if it is really useful and will be of any real help to the agriculturists.

"Lastly, Sir, I would like to point out that in the matter of agriculture, training is given mostly to students who aspire for careers as officer of the department and very few people that go out of the Agricultural College go back to their villages, settle on their farms and look after their own lands and adopt scientific methods. I would like Government to make some special arrangement such as reservation of a few seats to such agricultural students who go to the land and settle down as agriculturists. They will be as great an asset as any agricultural demonstrator on their land and they will be in a position to teach and demonstrate to the neighbouring

ryots what they have learnt and thus serve as a sort of inspiration and example to the surrounding population. With these few words, Sir, I move my cut motion."

* MR. D. M. REID:—" Mr. Speaker, I think the thin House here shows a most unfortunate lack of interest in this very important subject. I have tried on previous occasions, in the other place when I was a Member of the Council, and here in my Budget speech, to express my deep concern at the lack of progress in agriculture in South India to-day and the necessity for very deep thinking and consideration on the part of the Government in this respect. I wonder, Sir, if in speaking here to-day, I am trying to *grow brinjals in the dry desert.* If there is really any purpose in my pressing the seriousness of the subject or in my trying to convince the members of this House, it is this, that it is a subject which is important to all of us; and whatever we may be doing, whether we are trying to buy or sell motor lorries or buses and arguing whether the different boards should run them, or whether we are teaching in the school, or whether we are simply sitting here, behind all these matters, the thing which is of overwhelming importance is the prosperity of agriculture upon which, in the ultimate, we all depend. I hope my words are not altogether in vain. I should like to congratulate the Department of Agriculture on the production of this book (pointing to *the Village Officers' Calendar*, 1939) which has been presented to all of us and with due respect to you, Sir, and to this Hon. House, I wonder how many members of this House have taken the trouble to read through this splendid, excellent production which is available for every one at the price of one anna. Sir, I may congratulate the Hon. Minister particularly on the production of pages 2 and 3 and particularly the two paragraphs which put into far better words what I am thinking of than I can possibly put them myself. It expresses what Mr. Krishna Rao has just stated very well about extreme views on agriculture, and it is this:

'An ordinary ryot knows a great deal, but his knowledge is to a large extent empirical, that is to say, he does not know the *reason why* for many of his facts and common practices'

And then, it goes on to explain the very great value of the Agricultural College and of education to further the progress of agriculture.

" Sir, I do not want to take more than two or three minutes. We are all getting to the fag-end of the discussion on cut motions and no one particularly wants to listen to me. I congratulate the Government, Sir, on the production of this book, but I wish they could find a way of getting this publication read by the people, because this is in English and I do not know whether it is published in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada as I think it ought to be. I see the Hon. the Prime Minister nodding to tell me that it has been published in the other languages. I am very glad and I hope it is really read by many persons. But, we know

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what the farmers are in every country all over the world and they are conservative in taking to heart only what they have really learnt by experience. I should also like to congratulate the Hon. 6-
Minister for Public Information for the very useful communiqué p.m.
that was published recently and here again I wish that it had been read not only by the members of this House but by all the public. I refer to the Government communiqué, dated the 28th February 1939; under the heading 'Mettur Reservoir' paragraphs 10 to 16 epitomises in an excellent way how a man should irrigate his fields. I know, Sir, that the Department of Agriculture have got very fine literature and have got up very fine productions but I very much doubt if they are really taken to heart by the people who ought to be interested in it. Money is being spent but we should like to know if it is being fruitfully spent or if it is being wasted. I feel that it is the leaders of the people that ought to show to the people that this is of very vital importance.

"Kindly permit me, Mr. Speaker, to repeat what I have said before on a previous occasion. I suggested two alternatives and the Hon. the Premier knows what I have in my mind about this. All students should serve some period on the fields before they should be entitled to their degrees. The subject of agriculture should be made compulsory for the S.S.L.C. examination and there should be some other way of giving all of us—Europeans, Anglo-Indians and Indians—every one in this country, some knowledge of agriculture before we are fitted to have the full citizenship of this great country."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of a cut motion to discuss the policy of the Government. It is not at all my intention to discourage the work that the Government are doing for the agriculturists. My only idea is to draw the attention of the Government to one or two points and show how best the interests of the agriculturists could be advanced. In my opinion, there is much need for propaganda in this direction. The agriculturists are suffering under various disabilities and the same old story is being repeated over and over again under each Demand. Be it the Land Revenue Demand or the Agriculture Demand, we discuss the suffering of the agriculturists. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, has pointed out, the agriculturists require education, education not in the sense that they should be able to get degrees from the Universities but an education that will enable them to understand what their profession is and how best they can advance their interest in that direction. Looked at from that point of view, it looks as though the Government have been rather slow in recognizing the need for propaganda. We have got a number of officers—gazetted and non-gazetted. My suggestion is that the Government should try to increase the number of the maistris and demonstrators who can do much more useful work in this direction than the

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gazetted staff. I had at one time an opportunity to have a long talk with an agricultural demonstrator and I was rather inquisitive to know as to what work was being turned out by him. I was able to find out how he was discharging his duties. If I remember correctly, I was given to understand that it was not sometimes possible for him to go to the same village a second time in a year to have an idea as to how the work he had started, was getting on. This matter must be taken note of by the Government. What is the good in a demonstrator visiting a place once without being able for want of time to come back a second time to the same village to observe the progress of his work? What is the use if he is not able to see how the people have been benefited by that particular work on that particular farm? The maistris who go there try to explain things to the best of their ability but the villagers are denied the expert information that they can expect from the demonstrator. My suggestion, therefore, is that the Government should increase the number of agricultural demonstrators as also the number of maistris, and my reason is that these are the people who are in direct and immediate contact with the agriculturists and they will be the best people suited for the purpose of helping the agriculturists from time to time.

" There is one other matter that I want to place before the Government and that is with regard to the availability of plots for demonstration purposes. The agricultural demonstrators ask private landowners for plots for demonstration purposes; if the land is made available to him, the work is started off. Presuming for the moment that the villagers do not extend the same co-operation which the officers expect from them, what is to happen to the demonstration work? So my request to the Government is that the Government should set apart certain plots in certain villages for demonstration purposes.

" These are the only two points that I wanted to bring to the notice of the Government and as my time is very short I shall conclude my observations."

The hon. Member then gave a résumé of his speech in Urdu.

* Sri T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI :—" I agree with the hon. Member for the European community that the Members of this House do not take as much interest as they ought to with regard to agriculture. Agriculture is such an important subject that more interest should have been taken by hon. Members of this House and many suggestions should have been made for the improvement of this basic industry.

" The hon. Member moving the cut motion stated that there ought to be many more demonstrators and maistris for the various taluks but he himself has stated that this Government have appointed one maistri for each taluk. He may remember that previous Governments were not taking so much interest and there

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was only one demonstrator for two or three taluks. Things have certainly improved in that direction. But my point is that mere appointment of demonstrators and maistris is not enough; it is the co-operation of the landed gentry that is more essential for the improvement of agriculture. What can the demonstrator do without the help and co-operation of the landed gentlemen?"

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I may be permitted to state that I wanted first of all that scientific knowledge should be made available to the ordinary ryot as well as to the landed gentry."

* SRI T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—"I was saying that mere appointment of demonstrators cannot solve the question. More demonstrators will not give that scientific knowledge to the ryots. My opinion is that the co-operation of educated landed gentlemen of the type of Mr. Krishna Rao would go much to impart scientific knowledge among the ryots. Without such co-operation, nothing substantial can be done.

"As for the point raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Rahman Khan that plots should be made available for demonstrators for demonstration purposes, I may observe that if demonstration is to be carried on by the Government the ryots are prone to say that if they were able to spend as much as the Government did, they would be able to show much better results. So I can't agree with the observations of Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan that Government should 6-3 take plots here and there and themselves carry on demonstration p.m. work and thus show the results of their work to the ryots. I submit it is the landed people who should help Government in that they should come forward and give demonstration plots to Government, so that Government may demonstrate to the people the improved methods of cultivation. Then only the ryots will feel the impulse to adopt improved methods of cultivation.

"Again, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, says that research work should be stayed for some time and that demonstration work should be pushed forward more vigorously. I beg to differ from him. Research is the lifeblood of the agricultural industry; it is on account of researches carried on in the West and in the East that those nations have been able to become far advanced. Look at Japan; she is able on account of improved methods of production to produce rice not only for her own requirements but also to export to other countries. To-day other countries are able to import rice into India because of adopting improved methods of production, and it is on account of importation of foreign rice in India that the price of rice in India has fallen so low to-day. So I suggest it is only by producing four blades of corn where till now only one blade of corn was grown can we prosper. Therefore I say we cannot stop research work. In fact it should go side by side with demonstration work. The

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value of research work done in Coimbatore, especially in paddy and sugarcane should be admitted on all hands. I have got some experience of North India, and wherever I went there, I saw there people introducing the results of researches carried on in Coimbatore with regard to sugarcane. Day after day the research people are finding out new strains of improved sugarcane; so it is not advisable to stop research work. To do so is mere short-sighted policy. On the other hand we should give every encouragement for research work, and I will request Government to give more and more money for that work.

" Sir, since the time at my disposal is very limited I will content myself with referring to one more point and that a small request. It is a local affair, and I hope the Hon. Minister will take note of it and do what he can. Now the Excise department has been abolished in Madanapalle circle and consequently big buildings are available there. Now the headquarters of the Deputy Director of Agriculture is located in Cuddapah, and that officer has got jurisdiction over four or five districts extending over Chingleput, North Arcot, Chittoor, Anantapur, Cuddapah and perhaps Bellary and Kurnool also. At Cuddapah, Government are paying a rent of about Rs. 80 or Rs. 100 for the office building of the Deputy Director of Agriculture. Now that spacious buildings are available in Madanapalle, why not shift the office to Madanapalle? Madanapalle is noted for its salubrious climate, and certainly no officer would express his disinclination to have his office there. Further I wish to bring to your notice another fact. Madanapalle will be the central place for his whole jurisdiction, and there will be a saving in the matter of travelling allowance if the office is shifted to that place. So I would request the Hon. Minister to have the headquarters of the Deputy Director of Agriculture shifted to Madanapalle. With these observations, Sir, I resume my seat.

" అధ్యక్షా, శ్రీ కృష్ణా రావుగారు చాలామంది అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లను గవర్నమెంటువారేర్పాటుచేయలేదనియు, ఇంకను చాలామంది కావాలనియు చెప్పినారు. కాంగ్రెసు గవర్నమెంటు రాక పూర్వమున్న గవర్నమెంటువారు చాలా తక్కువమంది నేర్పాటుచేసినారు. ఈ గవర్నమెంటువారు వచ్చినతరువాత ఒక్కొక్క తాలూకాకు ఒక్క డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటరు నేర్పాటుచేసినారు. కాని వారివల్ల యెక్కువ లాభములు కాన్పించుటలేదు. నేను ప్రార్థించేదేమనగా, యీ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్ల నెక్కువగా యేర్పాటుచేసినందువల్ల ప్రయోజనములేదు. మన రాష్ట్రములో భూస్వాములుగానున్న వాళ్లు, చదువుకున్నవాళ్లు, కృష్ణా రావుగారి వంటి భూస్వాములు గవర్నమెంటుకు సహాయపడుచు వారియొక్క స్థలములనిచ్చి, ఆ స్థలములో గవర్నమెంటువారిచే నియమింపబడిన డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటరు సహాయముతో నూతనపద్ధతులతో వ్యవసాయము చేసినట్లైతే ఆ చుట్టుప్రక్కల నుండే రైతులు దాని యభివృద్ధిని గమనించి వారికికూడా యుత్సాహము కలుగును. గవర్నమెంటువారు నంద్యాలలోను, బళ్లారిదగ్గర హాగరిలోను అగ్రికల్చరల్

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ఫారముల నేర్పాటుచేసి ధనము వెచ్చించుచున్నారు. వాటినుండి రైతులు యెక్కువ ప్రయోజనము ననుభవించుటలేదు. ప్రతి గ్రామములోను వున్న భూస్వాములు డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్ల సహాయముతో నూతన పద్ధతులతో పంటలు పండించినట్లైతే రైతులు లాభముగు గమనిస్తారు.

"వ్యవసాయపరిశోధన కొన్నాళ్లవరకు అపుదలచేయమని కృష్ణా రావుగారు చెప్పినారు. వ్యవసాయపరిశోధనలుచేసి పాశ్చాత్య దేశీయులు తూర్పున చైనా, జపాన్ దేశీయులు నవీనపద్ధతు లవలంభించి ఒక్కపుట్టి పండేచోట నాలుగు పుట్లు పండించుచున్నారు. చెరకుకూడా చాలా యెక్కువగా పండించుచున్నారు.

"పూర్వము చైనా, జపాన్ దేశీయులు మన దేశమునుండి తెప్పించుకొన్న బియ్యముతో బ్రతికేవారు. ఇప్పుడీ నవీనపద్ధతు లవలంభించి వారికి కావలసినంత వుత్పత్తి చేసుకొనుటయేగాక హిందూ దేశమునకుకూడా పంపించుచున్నారు. ఇదివరలో మనకు వెనుకబడియున్న దేశము లిపుడు మనకంటె ముందంజవేసినవి. ఇప్పుడు కోయంబత్తూరు ప్రాంతములలో ప్రసిద్ధమైన చెరకు పండించుచున్నారు. క్రొత్తక్రొత్త రకములైన చెరకును కనిపెట్టినారు. కోయంబత్తూరు చెరకే యిపుడు ఉత్తర ఇండియాలోకూడా లక్షలకొలది యకరములలో వుత్పత్తిచేయుచున్నారు. పరిశోధనలు వృద్ధిచేసిననే పంటలు కూడా వృద్ధియగును. ఒక చిన్నమనవి. కడపలో వ్యవసాయపు డైరెక్టరు ఆఫీసున్నది. అచట యెండ చాలా యెక్కువ. Excise డిపార్టుమెంటు మూసినతరువాత దానికి సంబంధించిన కట్టడములు మదనపల్లిలో వుచితముగా వచ్చినవి. మదనపల్లి చాలా ఆరోగ్యమైన ప్రదేశము, చల్లని ప్రదేశము. కేంద్రస్థానము. కావున కడప డిప్యూటీ రిజిస్ట్రారు ఆఫీసు మదనపల్లికి మార్చినచో చాలా లాభమున్నవి. ఆఫీసర్ల బత్తాలు తగ్గును. దేశీయ సహకారముండును. శీతోష్ణస్థితి బాగుండును. కావున గవర్నమెంటువారి నీ విషయమై తగుశ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలెనని ప్రార్థించుచున్నాను."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I shall be very brief; I have got only two or three points. Sir, I am not myself an agriculturist, and I do not claim to know much about it. With all that I do not think the cleavage can be introduced between the agriculturist and a merchant. For I consider in the body politic of this Province, or for the matter of that in any State anywhere in the world, they constitute complementary as well as supplementary sections of the people. At any rate I need not dwell on that question for the present.

"At present from the Village Calendar and from the reports of Government themselves I have been made to think of certain aspects of agriculture. Though I cannot claim first-class knowledge on them, at least I can speak with some authority. Sir, as a merchant I have been always wondering, when at our tables both in the morning and at night, why we should have fruits imported from California, apples from Japan and pineapple from Singapore. I have been wondering what a humiliation it is for us that when we claim to be an agricultural country, when we have been agriculturists from time immemorial—even from the very

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beginning of history we have been cultivators and tillers of soil—still we have not been able to produce fruits enough for our food so that we can shut off all these foreign imports. I do not know whether the business aspect of this has been considered by the Government. And it has been always a very curious problem that honey should have been imported from California and Australia, places six and ten thousand miles away from our land, while our own country is capable of producing excellent honey, of which so much has been said in all our ancient literature, in the books of religion and books of sacred lore. It is sheer humiliation for us to do that, and I want to bring this to the notice of Government. It is not a mere compilation of reports that is expected of Government and we shall not be satisfied with that alone. We want to know whether the commercial aspect has been investigated; we want to know what is it that makes it impossible for this vast continent to produce those fruits that I spoke of and what is it that makes it possible for America and Australia to export their oranges, and similarly South Africa and Japan. This is the problem that should engage the attention of Government most earnestly.

"In addition to this, there is one factor to which I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister. Sir, the department is in charge of conservation of animal life of this Province. I should certainly say that one important feature has not been attended to. I know that the diseases of animals are of various kinds, like rinderpest, anthrax and several others. But a very important disease and that caused by human agencies themselves has been overlooked by Government; or at any rate have escaped the attention of Government. I refer to the habit of branding
5 animals in our Province. It is resorted to, sometimes as a cure for certain diseases, sometimes as an ornamentation to the animal and sometimes as identification of their cattle. Sir, I have examined almost all the animals of this country and I have had opportunities of learning the peculiarities of the hides drawn off from these animals from various parts in India. I should certainly say, in no part of our country do I find this branding of animals as is done in our own Province. What is the value, what is the economic value of these skins? Let us concentrate upon it. I shall go into this fact."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Why?"

M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, because, I might say . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No. This can be done under Veterinary. This is more relevant under the next Demand."

M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Agriculture and Veterinary all included." (Laughter.)

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* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Not merely tanning. It is national wealth."

MR. SPEAKER :—" All things are national wealth and tanning particularly !"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I was pointing out a way by which we can conserve an enormous sum of money, especially as the Government are out for more money now-a-days; that is, the method of retaining so much money for our country. I can give for your information that we are exporting about 3,000 to 5,000 bales per month from the Madras Port. Of the bulk of the hide that is being exported we have to eliminate about 20 per cent and the entire quantity of them are branded hides thrown away as useless. The consequence of it is . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Do you think that all that are relevant to the motion? "

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Very relevant. So much of loss is being sustained by the country. If you will please bear with me for a few minutes, I will show that these are very relevant."

MR. SPEAKER :—" You need not show. You finish it."

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I will finish it. Because it is a new point raised, every hon. Member of this House is very, very sensitive about this. This tanning question . . . (Interruption.) I do not know why I should not. Even otherwise I should say that it is not from the standpoint of any advice, but it is from the standpoint of the loss to the country that I say this. Every hide that is purchased for export to foreign countries is valued at Rs. 4 per hide and on all those that are branded we are losing on every hide Rs. 3 and the total loss that is sustained by this Province on account of the branding practice is between 35 to 40 lakhs of rupees, per year. Is not this an enormous sum? If you will permit me, I will demonstrate it by facts and figures that there is such an enormous loss between 30 to 40 lakhs. I am only asking how the Agricultural department has not handled that question. I do not look at it, though I am entitled to look at it, even from the standpoint of kindness to the animals, whether it should be done and how far it inflicts misery and pain to the animals. That is a different question, though it is an important point deserving the attention of this House and the attention of this Hon. Government; they must go into it and stop the practice that is going on in causing pain to these animals. Apart from this, it is not done in any other Province. It is a great destruction. We are losing nearly 40 lakhs every year. You will realize that this exportable commodity is not only not fit for export; it is not even fit for the use

MR. SPEAKER :—" That ultimately comes to tanning."

of the agriculturist for making water buckets for baling water from wells. Even for that purpose these are supposed to be not fit. If water buckets are made by these branded hides they just crack at the place where they are branded. Therefore, we are only reducing the worth of a very valuable material. Cattle is to be valued not only when it is alive; even when it is dead it has got its economic value. I therefore bring this aspect of the question to the notice of Government which has not been brought before . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"What was it that was not brought?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"They will have to control this custom of branding animals. They will have to consider this very important point and I certainly think that . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Where is that branding taking place on such a large scale?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In the whole of this Province, 20 per cent of the total cattle are branded . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Why?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is because of superstition."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"What is the superstition?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"People think that they adopt this method of branding because by that certain diseases are cured. Even our children are branded now in their early years. I have been branded by a needle on my stomach."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"And that has done great good?"

* M. AHMED BATCHA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know whether it is good or not. I have a number of children whom I have not branded (laughter) and they are good. Therefore, it is primarily a superstition. You will see that they adopt a symmetrical method of branding—and almost geometrically beautiful drawing on the entire body of the animal—and the cultivator or the agriculturist never thinks of the value of the animal to him if it were dead. He merely thinks of its pulling his water and ploughing the land. He fails to understand that there is greater value than that. He never goes into that question. He brands on all these animals diagrams upon both the sides. Very often when I have enquired into this question I have found them saying that certain diseases are cured. Even cows are branded sometimes, because they do not fertilize. This is their complaint. And very often they say that this is required for the purpose of identification. Therefore it is a very serious matter and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals does not extend its operation in that direction at all. They

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confine themselves with small wounds and other things. I think I can rightly draw the attention of this Government to the fact that in spite of the well-meant appeal it is regrettable to see that this aspect of the question has not been considered and explained."

"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நான் ஒரு விவசாயி அல்ல. நான் விவசாயியாயில்லாமலிருந்தபோதிலும், விவசாயியும் வியாபாரியும் வேறென்று நினைக்கவில்லை. இருவரும் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் ஆதரவாயிருக்கவேண்டியது. ஒருவர் சொல்லுவதை மற்றவர் விர்த்திக்குக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டியது அவசியம். வியாபாரிக்கு வேண்டியதை விவசாயி உற்பத்திசெய்யவேண்டியது அவசியமாயிருக்கிறது. இதை நான் முக்கியமாக கவனிப்பதவரையில் சொல்லுகிறேன். விவசாயிகளால் உற்பத்திசெய்யப்பட்ட பொருள்களை ஒருபக்கத்திலிருந்து மற்றொருபக்கத்திற்கு வியாபாரியிருக்கும் நான் அனுப்பி எவ்வாறு நல்ல விலை கிடைக்கும், பணங் கிடைக்கும் என்று கவனித்துக்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறேன்.

" எனக்குத் தெரிந்த ஒரு ஆச்சரியகரமான விஷயத்தைப்பற்றிச் சொல்லுகிறேன். (California) காலிபோர்னியா தேசத்திலிருந்தும் ஆஸ்திரேலியா தேசத்திலிருந்தும் ஆப்பிள் (Apples) வரவழைத்துச் சாப்பிடுகிறோம். ஆப்பிரிக்கா தேசத்திலிருந்து ஆரெஞ்சு (Orange) பழங்கள் வரவழைத்துச்சாப்பிடுகிறோம். இது நாம், விவசாய தேசத்தில் பிறந்த நாம் வெட்கப்படக்கூடிய விஷயமில்லையா? பயிர் விவசாயத் தொழிலை செய்யும் நாம் இதைக் கவனிக்காமலிருக்கிறோம். பல்லாயிரக்கணக்கான வருஷங்களாக நாம் இதைக் கவனிக்காமல் வெளிதேசங்களிலிருந்து சாதாரணமான பழங்களைத் தருவித்துத் தின்பதில் நம்முடைய உடம்பில் கொஞ்சமும் வெட்கமில்லாமலிருக்கிறோம். இது நம்முடைய தேசத்திற்கு மாத்திரம் ஈனமில்லை. நம்முடைய கௌரவத்திற்கும் எவ்வளவு கஷ்டமாயிருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். தேனைப்போன்ற வஸ்து நம்முடைய தேசத்தில் கிடைக்கக்கூடியது. ஜாஸ்தியாக உற்பத்திசெய்யலாம். இதை ஆஸ்திரேலியா, தென்னாப்பிரிக்கா, அமெரிக்கா போன்ற நாடுகளிலிருந்து வரவழைத்து சாப்பிடுகிறோம். நம்முடைய பழய புஸ்தகங்கள் வேதங்கள் மற்றும் வைத்தியப் புஸ்தகங்கள் இவைகளில் தேனைப் பற்றிச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறது. அதைக் கவனிக்காமல் இவ்வளவு க்ஷீணதிசைக்கு வந்தவிட்டதால் வெளி தேசங்களிலிருந்து நாம் தேன் வரவழைத்துச் சாப்பிடுகிறோம். (Agriculture) டிபார்ட்மெண்டார் இந்த விஷயத்தை சரியாக கவனிக்கவில்லை என்று தோன்றுகிறது. உற்பத்தி நாம் செய்துவந்திருந்தாலும் அல்லது பலவித பழங்களைப்பற்றிப் பரிசோதனை செய்திருந்தபோதிலும் வியாபாரமுறையில் அதை எவ்விதமாக விர்த்திசெய்யவேண்டுமென்று கவனிக்கவில்லை.

" இதுவுமல்லாமல் நம தேசத்திற்கு பொருளாதாரமான பல விஷயங்களில் முக்கியமாக வேண்டிய ஆடு மாடுகளின் நிலைமை மிகவும் மோசமாயிருக்கிறது. எந்த தேசத்திலும் எந்த மாகாணத்திலும் ஆடு மாடுகள் பசுக்களுக்கு சூடுபோடுகிற வழக்கமில்லை. முஜாத்தில் சேர்ந்த ஆடு மாடுகள் பசுக்களுக்கு சூடுபோடுகிறதைப் பாவமென்று நினைக்கிறார்கள். அவைகளுக்குச் சூடு போடுகிறதில்லை. அந்த தேசங்களில் ஆடு மாடுகளுக்கு வியாதி இல்லையா, கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்படவில்லையா? அப்படி இருந்தும் நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தில் மாத்திரம் ஆடு மாடுகளுக்கு ஏன் சூடுபோடுகிறார்களென்று தெரியவில்லை. இதைக் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கவனித்தால் இதனால் என்ன நஷ்டமுண்டாகிறதென்பது தெரியவரும். பசுவைத் தோல், பதனிடாத் தோலின் விலை நாலு ரூபாயாயிருந்தால், சூடுபோடுவதால் மூன்று ரூபாய் நஷ்டமாகிறது. இப்படிச் சூடு போடுகிறதினால் வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு முப்பது லட்சம் முதல் நாற்பது லட்சம் வரையில் நஷ்டமுண்டாகிறது என்று தைரியமாகச் சொல்லுவேன். இந்த விஷயத்தை ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்துத்தான் சொல்லுகிறேன். இவ்வளவு நஷ்டம் நூறு ஆண்டுகளாக ஏற்பட்டுவருவதைக் கவ

னித்தால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் இந்த விஷயத்தில் செலுத்தவேண்டிய முக்கியமான கவனத்தை செலுத்தவில்லை என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். இதனால் தேசத்திற்கு பொருளாதாரத்தில் நஷ்டமென்று தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு மாடுகள் போன்ற மிருகங்களுக்குப் பாதுகாப்பளிக்கவேண்டுமென்ற முறையிலும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்."

*SRI M. SUBBA RAO :—" అధ్యక్ష మహాశయా, గౌరవనీయులగు వ్యవసాయశాఖామాత్యులడిగిన గ్రాంటును నేను బలపరుచుచున్నాను. గవర్నమెంటు డిపార్టుమెంటులలోకెల్ల వ్యవసాయపు డిపార్టుమెంటు చాలా ప్రధానమైనది. రైతులకు సహాకారముచేసి వ్యవసాయమును బాగుగా వృద్ధిచేయవలెనంటే యీ గ్రాంటు చాలదు. కాని ప్రస్తుత ఆర్థికపరిస్థితులననుసరించి ఇంతకంటె హెచ్చు మొత్తము కోరుటకు వీలులేక అడిగియుందురనుకుంటాను. కాని యున్న డిపార్టుమెంటులోనే కొన్ని సర్దుబాట్లుచేయుట మంచిది. ఇదివరలో డిప్యూటీ డైరెక్టర్లు యీ రాజధానిలో ఎనమండుగురుండిరి. గత సంవత్సరము నలుగురిని తీసివేసినారు. అది చాలా సంతోషమైన విషయము. మిగిలిన డిప్యూటీ డైరెక్టర్లనుకూడా తీసివేయవలెను. అసిస్టెంటు డైరెక్టర్లు, అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లు వుంటేచాలు. డిప్యూటీ డైరెక్టర్ల అవసరములేదు. తాలూకా కొక్క అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటరు, ఫిర్కా కొక అగ్రికల్చరల్ మేస్త్రీవుండుట ముఖ్యము. ఈ మేస్త్రీలకు తగినంత శాస్త్రీయవ్యవసాయపు తరిఫీదునిచ్చి వుంచవలెను. ఇప్పుడున్న డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లకుకూడ తగినంత శాకచక్యము లేదు. వారికున్న అనుభవము చాలదని తోచుచున్నది. కారణమేమనగా ప్రస్తుతమున్న డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లు వ్యవసాయదారులకు సహాకారముచేయుటకు తగియుండలేదు. వారికి వ్యవసాయములో తగినంత జ్ఞానములేదు. వారు తాలూకా ప్రధానస్థలములో (Head-quarters) యుండి నెలకు వొకటి, రెండు గ్రామములలో వెళ్లుచున్నారు. ఒక తాలూకాలో 100 గ్రామములుంటే సంవత్సరానికి అధమపక్షము 50 గ్రామములైనా చూచుటలేదు. నేను అప్పుడప్పుడు యీ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లను కలుసుకొని అడిగితే యెప్పుడూ ఆఫీసు పని, కాగితము వ్రాయుటయే యని చెప్పుచుందురు. ఈ డిపార్టుమెంటు యితర డిపార్టుమెంటులకువలె ఒకచోట కూర్చొనిచేసే పనికాదు. గ్రామ గ్రామమునకుపోయి రైతులవద్దకేగి విషయాలన్నీ వారితో వినయపూర్వకముగా చెప్పి, డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేషన్ చేసి చూపించాలి. వారు అచ్చటపుస్తకములలో చదివిన విషయాలు చెప్పినచో లాభములేదు. ఆ ప్రాంతములోవుండే శీతోష్ణస్థితినిబట్టి ఆ గ్రామములో నున్న భూములయొక్క తరహాను స్వయముగా పరీక్షచేసి, ఆ ప్రాంతములోనున్న వర్షాధిక్యతను, వర్షాభావమును బట్టి ఇదివరలో అచటనున్న పంటలను గమనించి, వీటితో తనకున్న జ్ఞానాన్ని సమన్వయముచేసి వారికి సలహానీయవలెను.

m. " తరువాత నూతన వ్యవసాయ పద్ధతులు ప్రవేశపెట్టుట చాలా లాభకరముగా నుండును. అమెరికాలోను, స్పెయిన్, జపాన్‌లోను క్రొత్త వ్యవసాయ పద్ధతులు కనిపెట్టి చాల వృద్ధిలోనికివచ్చినారు. ప్రస్తుతము దేశములోనున్న రైతులు పంటలు చాలా తక్కువగా పండించుచుండుటవలన కూలి దినమునకు నాలుగణాలిచ్చుటకూడా కష్టముగానున్నది. నాలుగణాల కూలి కూలివానికి చాలదు. మన దేశములో నూటికి 95 మంది 4, 5 యకరములుగల చిన్న రైతులే. 45, 50 యకరములకంటె హెచ్చుగానున్నవారు చాలా తక్కువ. ఈ 4, 5 యకరములున్న వాళ్లందరూకూడా నూతనపద్ధతులవలంభించి హెచ్చు పంట పండించుట చాలా అవసరము. గవర్నమెంటు వారీవిషయమై వారికి సహాయపడాలి. భూమి పండని కారణముచేత పండినపంట

ఖర్చులకు, పన్నులకు, కూలికి సరిపోక రైతు బాధపడుచున్నాడు. కూలి ఆ 4 లు చాలక కూలివాడు బాధపడుచున్నాడు. కావున గవర్నమెంటువారు తొందరగా దీనిని చేసినసేగాని కొన్నాళ్లకు దేశ పరిస్థితి విపరీతంగా పరిణమించేటట్లు కాన్పించు చున్నది. క్రొత్త పద్ధతిప్రకారం వ్యవసాయముచేయించి రైతు నుద్ధరించాలి. ఈ క్రొత్త పద్ధతి మాకోటివాళ్లకే తెలియకుండాయున్నది అటువంటి పక్షములో అక్షర జ్ఞానమైనను లేని బీద రైతులకెట్లు యీ క్రొత్త పద్ధతి తెలియును ? వారికి భూము లకు నీరెంత పెట్టాలి, ఏ యే యెరువులు వేయాలి, ఏ మాత్రము విత్తనములు నాటాలి, వాటి నేవిధంగా పోషించాలి, మంచివిత్తనము లెచ్చటనుంచి తెప్పించుకో వాలి అనే విషయములను యీ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లు బోధించవలెను. ఈ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లున్నారనిగాని, వారు సలహాలనిచ్చెదరనిగాని రైతులకేమియు తెలియదు. కావున గవర్నమెంటువారీ రైతులకందరికి నూతన పద్ధతులతో వ్యవసాయముచేయుట నేర్పింప వలెను.

" మన రాజధానిలో, తూర్పు గోదావరి, పశ్చిమ గోదావరి, కృష్ణా, గుంటూరు, కడప మొదలైన జిల్లాలలో నారింజ తోటలు, బత్తాయి తోటలు, మామిడి తోటలు క్రొత్తగా 20 సంవత్సరముల యీ మధ్యను బయలుదేరినవి. ఇవి మొక్క నాటిన తరువాత 10, 12 సంవత్సరములవరకు కాపుకు రావు. కాపుకు వచ్చిన రెండు, మూడు సంవత్సరములలో వాటికేదో తెగులువచ్చి చెట్లన్నియు చచ్చిపోతాయి. ఈ తెగుళ్లను మాన్పి, ఈ తోటలను రక్షించుకొనే విధానము రైతులకు తెలియక ఆ తోటల కెపుడు నీరు పెట్టవలెనో, పెంట యెప్పుడెంతెంత వేయవలెనో తెలియక తోటవేసిన 15, 16 సంవత్సరములలోనే తోటలుపోయి రైతు భూమినికూడా అమ్ముకొని పాడై పోతున్నాడు. ఈ డైరెక్టర్లుగాని, అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్లుగాని ఆ తోటలను పరీక్షచేసి రైతులకు బోధించి వాటిని వృద్ధిచేసేమార్గముచూపించి బలవంతముగానైనా వారిచేత చేయించవలెను. మశూచి వచ్చినప్పుడు మనుష్యులకు బలవంతంగా టీకా లెట్లువేయుచున్నారో అటులనే వారిచేత బలవంతంగాచేయించి తోటలకువచ్చిన తెగుళ్లను పోగొట్టవలెను. ఈ తోటలు మన దేశములో విస్తారముగానున్నవి.

" ఆ తోటలలో పండిన పంట నేమిచేయవలెనో రైతులకు తెలియదు. మామిడి తోటలలో తయారైన కాయలు యెచ్చటికి యెగుమతిచేయవలెనో తెలియక వెయ్యి కాయలు రెండు రూపాయలకు, ఒక్క రూపాయకు యిచ్చివేయుచు, అప్పటికిని అమ్ముడుకానివి గోతులలో కప్పెట్టుచున్నారు. అట్టి యెడల ఆ రైతెట్లు వృద్ధిలోనికి రాగలడు ? కావున యీ విషయములో గవర్నమెంటువారు పూనుకొని హిందూ దేశములోని అన్ని ప్రాంతములకును, బర్మాకును వాటి నెగుమతిచేయించవలెను. కడపలో పండిన బత్తాయి కాయలు యెగుమతిచేసుకొనుట వారికి తెలియుటలేదు. కావున అచ్చట ధరలు తగ్గిపోయి అతిచౌకగా అమ్ముటచే వారికి ఖర్చులకుకూడా వారి పంటంతయు సరిపోవుట లేదు. కాబట్టి గవర్నమెంటువారు వారికి సహాయముచేసి అచ్చటి పంటను యితర ప్రాంతములకు యెగుమతిచేయించినచో కొంత లాభకరముగానుండును.

" ఉత్తర హిందూస్థానములో తీపిద్రాక్ష ముఖ్యమైన పంటగానున్నది. అది యిచ్చట యెక్కువగా పండదు. బెంగుళూరులో పండే అదేత్ యిచట పండుటలేదు. కాని కొద్ది ఖర్చుతో కొంచెము శ్రద్ధతీసుకొన్నట్లైతే వాటి నిచ్చట పండించుటకు

[Sri M. Subba Rao] [27th March 1939

తీలున్నది. కడప ఫారములోనికి పై అంట్లు తెప్పించుచున్నారు. ఉత్తర హిందూ స్థానమునుండి లిప్పి ద్రాక్ష అంట్లు తెప్పించి ఇచట బయలుదేరు అడవి ద్రాక్షతీగతో కలిపి అంటుకట్టినచో మొదలు ఈ దేశానిదికాబట్టి, యీ రాష్ట్రమున చివర ఆ దేశానిదికాబట్టి అవి కాచును. కడప ఫారములో వీటిని బాగుగా వృద్ధిచేయవచ్చును.

"ఇంకొక ముఖ్యమైన విషయమేమనగా గోదావరి లంకలలో యకరమునకు గవర్నమెంటు పన్నులు 4 వందలు, 5 వందలు చెల్లించుచున్నారు. పంటలు సరిగా పండక పన్నులు చెల్లించుకోలేక భూములమ్ముకొని రైతులు పాడైపోవుచున్నారు. లంక భూముల వ్యవసాయము బాగుగా తెలిసిన డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటర్ల నక్కడవేసి లంక రైతులకు తగిన సహాయము చేయవలయును. కొబ్బరి తోటలలో తయారైన కాయలు, అచటి నుండి యెగుమతిచేయించి, ఆ ప్రాంతములలో ఒక అగ్రికల్చరల్ ఫారము నేర్పరచవలెను.

"తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లా, ఏజెన్సీ, చోడవరము ప్రాంతములలో, గవర్నమెంటువారు రాజమహేంద్రవరం అసిస్టెంటు డైరెక్టరును ప్రత్యేకంగా తిరిగి అచ్చటి పరిస్థితులను గమనించి ఒక నివేదికను పంపించవలసినదని వుత్తరువుచేసినారు. ఆయన గత సంవత్సరము వేసవికాలము రోజులలో 2, 3 మాసములు కాలినడకను యేజెన్సీ ప్రాంతము లన్నియు తిరిగి ఒక నివేదికను గవర్నమెంటువారికి పంపించినట్లు తెలియుచున్నది. దానిపై గవర్నమెంటువారేమిచేయదలచినది యింతవరకు తెలియలేదు. చోడవరం ఏజెన్సీ ప్రాంతములలో ఒకపెద్ద కొండయున్నది. అది సముద్రమట్టమునకు 4,000 అడుగుల యెత్తుననున్నది. ఊటీ కొండలలో యెంత చల్లాగానుండునో యీ కొండ ప్రాంతములో అంత శీతలముగాయుండును. అచట కావలసినన్ని నేలయున్నవి. ఉత్తర హిందూస్థానములో పండు ద్రాక్ష, ఆపిలు పండ్లతోట లిచట పండించవచ్చును. ఈ విషయములోకూడా ఒక అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్‌స్ట్రేటరు నచటవేసి పనిచేయించుట ముఖ్యము.

"బెజవాడలో ఒక టానింగు ఇండస్ట్రీ యున్నది. తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లా కడియములో మరియొక టానింగు ఇండస్ట్రీ కట్టుచున్నారు. ఇది చాలా ముఖ్యమైనది. ఆ ప్రాంతములలో పడిన పంటను యితర దేశముల కెగుమతిచేయుట, ధర తక్కువగాయున్నచో మామిడిపండ్లు నిలువచేయించుట, బత్తాయి జ్యూస్ చేసి సీసాలలో పోయించి నిలువచేసినచో అవి పండనికాలములలో మన దేశములో వాడుకొనుటకును, ఇతర దేశముల కెగుమతిచేయుటకును పనికివచ్చును దీనివల్ల రైతుకు లాభముకలుగును. కావున యీ క్రొత్త ఇండస్ట్రీలను వృద్ధిచేయించవలసినదని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను.

"ముఖ్యముగా వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికై గవర్నమెంటువారు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలెను. ఒక్కపుట్టెడు ధాన్యము పండేచోట 4 పుట్లు పండేటట్లుగా క్రొత్త పద్ధతులతో చేయించి రైతు లోకమునకు మేలుచేయవలెనని కోరుచు వచ్చే సంవత్సరము గౌ॥ మంత్రిగారు యెక్కువ గ్రాంటు తీసుకొని వ్యవసాయముపై ఖర్చు పెట్టవలసినదని ప్రార్థించుచు యింతటితో విరమించుచున్నాను"

V.S.T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—

"மேன்மைதங்கிய Speaker அவர்களே, விவசாயம் இலாக்களுக்கு இந்த மகாணத்தில் ஒரு முக்கிய தொழிலாக இருக்கிறதென்பது

27th March 1939]
[V. S. T. Shaik Mansoor Tharaganar Sahib Bahadur]

யாவரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். இதுவரை விவசாயிகளுடைய குறைகளை இம்மாகாண மினிஸ்டர் அவர்கள் கொஞ்சமும் கவனித்ததாக இல்லை. விவசாயிகள் ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திற்கும் விவசாய மினிஸ்டரை அழைப்பதும் அவர்கள் ஆங்காங்கே போய் அவர்கள் அளிக்கும் வரவேற்பைப் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு விவசாயிகளுக்கு வேண்டியதைச் செய்வதாயும் விவசாயிகள் கவர்ன்மென்டின முதுகெலும்பு என்று சொல்லி அவர்கள் மனதைத் தேற்றிவிட்டு வந்துவிடுகிறார்கள். பின்னால் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டியதைச் செய்கிறதில்லை. விவசாயிகள் இம்மாகாணத்தில் எந்நிலையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். நெற்றி வேர்வை நிலத்தில் விழ காலை முதல் மாலை வரை பாடுபட்டும் ஒரு நேரத்திற்கு விவசாயி வயிற்றுக்கு கூழில்லை என்பது யாவருக்கும் தெரியும். அவர்கள் நிலைமையைக் கவனித்து அதற்குத் தக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யாமலிருப்பது குறையே. இது யாவராலும் மன்னிக்க முடியாது என்பதை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கீழ் நாடுகளிலும் மேனாடுகளிலும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு பிரசாரப்பிரசுரங்கள் மூலமாகவும் சினிமாக்கள், டாக்கிகள், ரேடியோக்கள் மூலமாகவும் விவசாயத்தை விர்த்தி செய்வதற்காக, முன்னேற்றமடைய செய்வதற்காக, பயிர்களுக்கு ஏற்படக்கூடிய நோய்களை நிவர்த்திக்க வேண்டிய ஒத்தாசை அப்போதைக்கப்போது செய்து வருகிறார்கள். இதுவுமல்லாமல் விவசாயத்தில் எந்தெந்தப் பயிர்களுக்கு எந்தெந்த உரங்களிட வேண்டும், எந்தெந்த காலங்களிலிடவேண்டும், எந்தெந்த காலங்களில் எந்தெந்தப் பயிரிடவேண்டும், எந்தெந்தக் காலங்களில் பயிர் நடவேண்டும், எந்தெந்தக் காலங்களில் பயிருக்குக்களை எடுக்கவேண்டும் என்பதைப் பற்றி அப்போதைக்கப்போது விவசாயிகளுக்கு பிரசாரப் பிரசுரங்கள் மூலமாகவும், சினிமாக்கள் மூலமாகவும், ரேடியோக்கள் மூலமாகவும் பிரசாரம் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது குறைந்த செலவில் ஏராளமான தானியத்தை எடுத்து லாபமடையக் கூடிய அளவு முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். நாம் ஆயிரம் ஆயிரம் வருடங்களுக்கு முன்னிருந்து விவசாயிகளாயிருந்தும் நம் நாட்டில் நம்மைக் கவர்ன்மென்டானது கவனிக்காமல் அவர்கள்கையில் வைத்துச் சாறாகப் பிழிந்து விவசாயிகளுடைய இரத்தத்தை உறிஞ்சுகிறார்கள். விவசாயிகளுக்குப் போதிய அளவு ஒத்தாசை செய்யாமலும், விவசாயிகள் மேன்மேலும் விவசாயத்தை விர்த்திசெய்வதற்கான மார்க்கத்தைப் புகட்டாமல் கவர்ன்மென்டு இருந்து வருகிறது. நமது கவர்ன்மென்டின் நிலைமையைக் கவனிக்கும்போது ஒவ்வொரு சமயத்திலும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு கொஞ்சமாவது ஒத்தாசை செய்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை.

"நம் பாக்ஷா சாகிப் அவர்கள் சொல்லுவதுபோல் மேனாடுகளிலிருந்தும் கீழ் நாடுகளிலிருந்தும் வரக்கூடிய பழங்கள் அரிசி மாவுகளை நாம் தின்றும் நமக்கு இன்னமும் மானம் வராமலிருந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். விவசாயிகளுக்கு ரேடியோக்கள் மூலம், சினிமா, டாக்கீஸ் மூலம் பிரசுரப் பிரசாரங்கள் செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்வதுடன் விவசாயிகள் குறைகளை அப்போதைக்கப்போது கவனித்து அதற்குத் தக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நான் விவசாய மினிஸ்டர் அவர்களை மிகவும் தாழ்மையாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

*SRI A. SUBRAMANIAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, 7-15 p.m.
விவசாய மானிய விஷயமாக சில வார்த்தைகள் கூறும்படியான சந்தர்ப்பம் எனக்குக் கிடைத்ததைப்பற்றி நான் பெருமை அடைகிறேன் ஏனெனில் எனக்கு விவசாயத்தில் அதிகமான அனுபவமில்லாமலிருந்தபோதிலுங்கூட விவசாயிகளிடத்திலே அதிகமாக நெருங்கிப் பழகிவரும்படியான ஒரு பெரிய சந்தர்ப்பம் அநேக சந்தர்ப்பங்களிலே எனக்கு கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. ஆகவே அவ்விஷயமாக எனக்குத் தெரிந்த சில விஷயங்

[Sri A. Subramaniam] [27th March 1939

களைக் குறித்துக் கூறுகிறேன். பொதுவாக காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மென்டானது பதவி ஏற்றுக்கொண்டு இருபது மாதங்களாகின்றன. இந்த இருபது மாதங்களில் என்னென்ன காரியங்களை விவசாயிகளுக்குச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதைச் செவ்வனே ஆராய்ந்து செய்துகொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறதென்பதை யாரும் மறுக்கமுடியாது. ஆனால் சென்ற பதினேழு வருஷங்களாக சட்டசபையில் அநேக கற்றறிந்தவர்கள், விவசாயப் பிரதிநிதிகள் இருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார்களென்பதை ஒருவரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. அவர்கள் என்ன காரியத்தைச் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். எதை சாதித்திருக்கிறார்களென்று ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்தால் விரல் விட்டுக் கூறுவதற்குக்கூட முடியாது. ஆனால் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் பதவியேற்ற சில மாதங்களில் குறிப்பாக விவசாயிகள் விஷயமாக அந்தந்த ஜில்லா கலெக்டர்களுக்கு காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தினிடத்திலிருந்து எம்மாதிரி உத்திரவு பிறந்திருக்கிறது என்பதை கலெக்டரிடத்தில் போய் ஒன்றும் விவசாயிகளுக்குச் செய்யவில்லை என்று சொல்லக் கூடியவர்கள் கேட்டுத்தெரிந்துகொண்டு வந்திருந்தால் விஷயம் நன்றாக புரிந்திருக்கும்.

“ கனம் ஆமத் பாக்ஷா சாஹிப் அவர்கள் சில வார்த்தைகள் கூறினார். ஆப்பிரிக்கா தேசத்திலிருந்து ஆரெஞ்சு பழங்கள் வருகிறது. இத்தாலி, ஆஸ்திரேலியா, அமெரிக்கா தேசங்களிலிருந்து ஆப்பில் பழங்கள் வருகிறது. அவைகளையெல்லாம் நாம் தாராளமாக வாங்கிச் சாப்பிடுவதற்கும் அதை ஆதரிப்பதற்கும் நாம் தயாராக இருந்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். நம் நாட்டிலே விவசாயிகள் அவ்வகைப் பழங்களை உற்பத்திசெய்ய அநேக வசதிகளிலிருந்தும் செவ்வனே செய்ய முடியவில்லை, அதைச் செய்வதற்குத் தகுந்த உதவி செய்ய முடியவில்லை என்று அவர் கூறினார். ஆனால் என்னைப்பொருத்தமட்டில் அவர் விஷயத்தில் ஒரு அனுதாபமுண்டு. அவர் இந்த நாட்டில் விளையும் படியான பழங்கள் பொருள்களை உபயோகிக்கவேண்டுமென்ற ஆசையுடன் சொல்லியிருக்கிறதை யாரும் போற்றாமலிருக்க முடியாது. அதைப் போற்றவேண்டியவர்கள் நாம்தான் என்பதை மறந்துவிட முடியாது. அவருக்கு அடுத்த படியாகப் பேசியவர் அதேபோல் இந்த தேசத்தில் விளையும் பொருள்களை உபயோகிக்கவில்லை என்றால் மானமில்லையா என்று சொன்னார், வாஸ்தவமாய் ஒவ்வொரு இந்தியருக்கும் இது உதிக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் சென்ற பதினேழு வருஷகாலமாக அரசாட்சி செய்தவர்கள் அதை கவனிக்கவில்லை என்பதை நான் மறுமுறையும் கூறுகிறேன். இதை அவர்கள் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் பதவி யேற்றுக் கொண்ட சில மாதங்களில் (இருபது மாதங்களில்) ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லா கலெக்டர்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகள் விஷயமாய் உத்திரவுகள் பிறப்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள் அதன்படி சப் கலெக்டர்கள் கிராம ஜனங்களிடத்தில் போய் விவசாய அபிவிர்த்திக்காக என்னென்ன காரியங்கள் செய்கிறார்களென்பதை அறியவேண்டும் கிராமங்களிலுள்ள விவசாயிகள் எந்த வித்தை விதைக்க வேண்டும், எம்மாதிரி எருக்கள் போடவேண்டும், எப்படிப் பயிர் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதை விவரித்துச் சொல்லவேண்டும். அதைக் குறித்து அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கு மாதவாரியாகத் தகவல் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கலெக்டர்களுக்கு உத்திரவு பிறப்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதைப் பார்த்தால் அவர்கள் கூடிய வரையில் செவ்வனே காரியங்கள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். என்பது நன்கு புலனாகும். இப்பொழுது காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஏற்பட்டு ஒன்றரை வருஷத்திற்கு மேலாகிறது காங்கிரஸ் அரசாட்சி இந்த ஐந்து வருஷகாலமும் நடக்கத்தான் போகிறது. அதற்குள் விவசாயிகள் குறைகளைக் கவனித்து வேண்டியதைச் செய்யுமென்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. ஒரு பழச்செடி வைத்தால் ஐந்து வருஷ காலமான பிற்பாடுதான் மரமாய்க் காய்த்துப் பலன் கொடுக்கும். சீதோஷ்ணஸ்திதிக்குத் தக்கவாறு பயிர்கள் உண்டாகி பலன் தருகின்றன. எந்தெந்த தேசத்தில் எதெது விளையக்கூடுமோ, அதுதான் விளையும் விளையாத இடங்களில் உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு

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அரசாங்கத்தார் ஆராய்ச்சி செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இன்னும் விவசாயிகளுடைய குறைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய ஆராய்ச்சி செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்களென்பதையும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நம்முடைய காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தார் போதிய மரஞ் செடிகளை வைத்து பழங்களை உற்பத்தி செய்வதில் சிரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் முயற்சிக்கு நாம ஆதரவு கொடுக்கவேண்டும். நான் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் மானியத்தை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, விவசாயிகள் என்று சொல்லப்படுபவர்கள் யார் என்று சர்க்கார் முக்கியமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டும். விவசாயிகள் ஏவுதல் விவசாயி, ஏற்றுதல் விவசாயி என்று இருவகைப்படுவார்கள் நிலச்சுவான்தார், நிலமுடையவர்கள் இவர்கள் ஏவக்கூடியவர்கள், இவர்கள் ஏவுதல் விவசாயிகள். நிலங்களை ஏற்று உழுது பயிரிடுகிறவர்கள் நாட்டிலுள்ள ஏழைகள்; இவர்கள் இரண்டாவது வகுப்பை சேர்ந்தவர்கள். ஏழை ஜனங்கள், ஹரி ஜனங்கள் மாத்திரம் உழுது பயிரிடவில்லை. படையாச்சி, சாகிபுமார் போன்ற வகுப்புகளிலும் ஏழை ஜனங்கள் உழுது பயிரிடுகிறவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த ராஜ்யம் முதலாளிகள் ராஜ்யமாக இருக்கிறது. ஏழை ஜனங்கள் விவசாயிகள் ராஜ்யமாக இல்லை. உழவன கையை உலகம் எதிர்ப்பார்த்திருக்கிறது. உழவன கையை மூடிக்கொண்டால் ஒன்றும் நடவாது. உழவன் கையை மேழியிலிருந்து எடுத்து விட்டால் இந்த நாட்டிலுள்ள அரசாங்கம் சாகவேண்டியதுதான். எல்லாம் ஒழியவேண்டியதுதான். அவன் மேழியைப்பிடித்து உழுகிறவன், அவன்தான் நாட்டை காப்பாற்றுகிறான். இந்தச் சபையும் அவனுக்காகத்தானிருக்கிறது. ஏர் உழுகிறவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் அனுதாபங் காட்டவேண்டியது ஒவ்வொருவருடைய கடமை என்பது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். இப்படியிருக்கும் நிலைமையில் சிலர் என்ன செய்கிறார்கள். பாலுக்குச் சக்கரை வேண்டுமென்று அழுகிறார்கள் கூழுக்கு உப்பில்லை என்று சொல்லவில்லை. நிலவரியைக் குறைக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள், நாட்டில் உழுகிறவனுக்குக் கஞ்சிகிடைக்கிறதா, துணி கிடைக்கிறதா, சுகாதாரம் கிடைக்கிறதா, மருந்து கிடைக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கிறதில்லை. வாஸ்தவத்தில் நாட்டில் ஏழை விவசாயிகள் எப்படி இருக்கிறார்கள் நெருப்பில் விழுந்த புழுக்கள்போல் துடித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு முதலாளியும் அவர்களைத் தங்களுடைய நிலங்களில் பயிர் செய்யும்படி செய்கிறார்கள். அறுப்புக்காலத்தில் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டிய ஊதியத்தைக் கொடுப்பதில்லை. ஆடி மாதம் வரையில் கொடுக்காமல் இழுத்துக்கொண்டுபோய் ஆடி மாதத்தில் கணக்குப் பார்க்கிறார்கள்; கார்த்திகை மாதத்தில் புதிய குருவை நெல்லைக் கொடுக்கப் பார்க்கிறார்கள். தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லா நன்னிலந் தாலூகாவில் நாலைந்து கிராமங்களிலுள்ள ஏழைகள், விவசாயஞ் செய்யக் கூடியவர்கள், தங்கள் நிலச்சுவான்தார்களிடத்தில், 'அறுவடை காலத்தில் கிடைக்கும்படியாக தங்கள் நெல்லைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்; குருவை நெல்லை வாங்க முடியாது' என்று சொன்னதற்காக முதலாளிகள் அவர்களை கட்டிவைத்து அடித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் பேரில் கேஸ்கள் நடக்கின்றன. இதிலிருந்து பெரிய பணக்காரர்கள் நிலச்சுவன்தார்கள் ஏழை விவசாயிகள் குடியானவர்களை அவ்வாறு அடக்குமுறை செய்து வேலை வாங்குகிறார்களென்பது தெரிகிறது. உழுகிறவர்களுக்கு உதவிசெய்ய யாருமில்லை, உழுகிறவர்களிடத்தில் யாரும் அனுதாபங் காட்டுகிறதில்லை. சர்க்கார் ஏழைக் குடியானவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் பூரண அனுதாபங் காட்டவேண்டும். காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் ஏழைகளுக்கு உதவி செய்திருக்கிறார்களென்றாலும் ஏழைக் குடியானவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் கவனஞ் செலுத்தவில்லை.

"எனது நண்பர் ஏ. சுப்பிரமணியம் அவர்கள் காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் கவனிக்கிறார்களென்று சொன்னார்கள். காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் ஏழைகள் சர்க்காராகஇருந்தால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குப் பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கவேண்டும். ஒவ்வொரு

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [27th March 1939

உழைப்பாளிக்கும் இவ்வளவு கூலி கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அறுவடையானவுடன் குடியானவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டிய நெல்லைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று சட்டம் செய்து பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கவேண்டும். அவர்களுடைய பிள்ளைகள் படிக்க வசதி அளிக்கவேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சுகாதாரம், மருந்து கிடைக்கிறதா, குடி தண்ணீர் வசதி இருக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். இந்த விஷயங்களைக் கவனிக்கவில்லை. தண்ணீர் வசதிக்கு என்று பணத்தை சர்க்கார் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். நேற்று முன் தினம் சுகாதாரத்தைப்பற்றிப் பிரசங்கம் நடந்தது. நான் எழுந்து நின்றேன்; எனக்குப் பேச இடங்கொடுக்கவில்லை. சுகாதாரமின்மை எந்த ஜாதிகளிடையே இருக்கின்றனவோ அந்த ஜாதிகளின் பிரதிநிதியாகிய எனக்குப் பேச இடங்கிடைக்கவில்லை. இன்னும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களாகத்தான் கருதப்படுகிறோம். சுகாதாரத்திலும் மெடிக்கலிலும் பேச எனக்கு இடங்கிடைக்கவில்லை. இப்பொழுதாவது இந்த விவசாய டிமாண்டில் எனக்கு பேச இடங்கொடுத்ததற்காக சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். சட்டசபைக்கு கௌரவத்திற்காக நான் வரவில்லை. எங்கள் ஜனங்கள் குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல வந்திருக்கிறேன் என்று தெரிவிக்கிறேன். ஒரு மனிதன் ஒரு மிராசுதாருக்கு நாள் முழுவதும் உழுதால் அவனுக்கு இரண்டுபடி நெல் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அதைக்கொண்டு அவன் மனைவி மக்கள் வீட்டிலுள்ள இன்னும் மற்றுமுள்ள கிழவர் கிழவிகள் சாப்பிடவேண்டும். போதுமான சாப்பாடு இல்லை என்று வேறு நிலத்தைப் பயிரிட்டால் அவனை மிராசுதார்கள் அடித்துத் துரத்துகிறார்கள். இதனால் அவர்கள் பர்மா, ரெங்கூன், சிலோன் முதலிய இடங்களுக்கு ஓடுகிறார்கள். இந்த விஷயத்தை யாரும் கவனிக்கவில்லை. விவசாயிகள் நன்மையைக் கருதி ஒரு டிபார்ட்மெண்டு ஏற்படுத்தினார்கள். அது போதுமானதல்ல. அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டு கடலில் கரைத்த புளி மாதிரி இருக்கிறது. சர்க்கார் உடனே சட்டம் இயற்றவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக மாத்திரமல்ல; பயிரிடுபவர்கள் எவர்களாயிருந்தாலும் அவர்களுக்குக் கஞ்சி வயிறாரக் கிடைக்கவேண்டும், உழைப்புக்குத் தக்க கூலி கிடைக்கவேண்டும், அத்துடன் அவர்களுக்கு உழைப்புக்கு வேண்டிய நிலம் இருக்கவேண்டும், சுகாதாரமிருக்கவேண்டும் என்று சட்டமியற்ற வேண்டியது அரசாங்கத்தாருடைய கடமையாக இருக்கிறது.

"இந்த நிலைமையில் இன்னொரு முக்கியமான விஷயத்தைச் சொல்லிவிட்டு முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். எழு ஜில்லாக்களில் மழையில்லாமையால் தானியம் கேழ்வரகு, கம்பு, சோளம் முதலிய புஞ்சைத் தானியங்கள் விளையவில்லை. ஏழைகள் சாகும் நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். கேழ்வரகு, கம்பு, சோளம் விதைக்கவோ விதையில்லை. எந்த நாட்டில் விளைந்திருக்கிறதோ அங்கேயிருந்து சர்க்கார் வரவழைத்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் விவசாயிகள் நிலங்களை விதைத்துப் பயிரிட முடியும். விவசாயிகள் பயிரிட்டுப் பிழைக்கவேண்டும் இதை விவசாய மந்திரி கவனிக்கவேண்டும். உழுகிற ஒவ்வொரு விவசாயிக்கும் கால் காணி நிலமாவது குறைந்த பட்சம் கொடுக்கும்படியான நிலைமையை உண்டுபண்ண வேண்டும். இந்த விஷயத்தை விவசாய மந்திரியும் ரெவின்யூ மந்திரியும் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். இதைச் செய்யாவிட்டால் இந்த அரசாங்கம் எவ்வளவு நன்மை ஏழைகளுக்குச் செய்தாலும் பிரயோஜனமாயிருக்காது, திருப்தியாயிருக்காது, விவசாயிகளைப் பாதுகாக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லி முடித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்."

*Sri K.S. RAMASWAMI GOUNDAR.—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, விவசாயத்திற்காக ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் மானியத்தை ஆதரிக்கும் நிலைமையில் நான் சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். விவசாயமானது விவசாய டிபார்ட்மெண்டாருடைய கையில் ஒப்படைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதற்கு முன்னே பேசியவர்கள் தாலூக்காக்களில் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் (Demonstrators) இருக்கிறார்களென்று சொன்னார்கள். நான் பல விவசாய டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்களை அடிக்கடி பார்க்கச் சந்தர்ப்பங்கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. எனக்கு அனுபவ

27th March 1939] [Sri K. S. Ramaswami Goundar]

முண்டு. இதிலிருக்கப்பட்ட குறைகளைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கிராமங்களிலிருக்கப்பட்ட ஜனங்களுக்கு விவசாயத்தை எவ்வளவு தூரம் விர்த்தி பண்ணலாமென்பது தெரியாது. அவர்களுக்கு வரை எவ்வளவு தூரம் நிலத்தில் புதையும்படி உழவேண்டும். விதை, நல்ல விதை போடவேண்டும், எந்த மாதிரி விதைத்தால் நன்றாகப் பலன் தரும் என்பது தெரியாது. உழுது விதைத்தபின் ஜலம் எவ்வளவு பாய்ச்சவேண்டும் என்பது தெரியாது. இவைகளையெல்லாம் தாலூக்காக்களிலிருக்கப்பட்ட டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் அவர்களிடத்தில் போய்ச்சொல்லி அவர்களை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டியது அவர்களுடைய கடமை. ஆனால் அவர்கள் அப்படிச் செய்கிறதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. என்னிடத்தில் வந்த ஒரு டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டரிடத்தில் 'என்னுடைய பண்ணையில் பருத்தி விதைக்கிறது இந்த மாதிரி விதைக்கிறேன். அதாவது ஒரு செடி நெருக்கில்லாமலிருக்கும் பொருட்டு 2½ அடி வித்தியாசமாய் விதை போடுகிறேன்' என்று சொன்னால், அது ஜாஸ்தி; 1½ அடி வித்தியாசமாய் போடவேண்டும் என்று சொன்னதின்பேரில், அப்படிப்போட்டு செடி நெருக்கமாக இருந்ததினால் பருத்தி மாகூலில் நன்றாகப் பலன் கிடைக்கவில்லை. 2½ அடிக்கு ஒரு பருத்திச் செடி போட்டேன். நல்ல பலன் கிடைத்தது அப்படிப் போட்ட என்னுடைய பண்ணையை விவசாய டிப்டி டைரெக்டருக்குக் (Deputy Director of Agriculture) காட்டினேன். டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்களுக்கு இன்னவிதமாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று தெரிகிறதில்லை. சிலடிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் கெட்டிக்காரர்களாக இருக்கலாம்; மற்றும் அநேகம் பேர்களுக்குத் தெரியாது. என்போன்றவர்கள போதிக்கும் நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். தவிர, அவர்கள் கிராமங்களில் மாதத்தில் இவ்வளவு நாள் ஒருவர் தங்க வேண்டுமென்று ரூல் இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு நாளை தங்குகிறார்களென்பது தெரியாது. அவர்கள் (hat, boots) ஹாட், பூட்ஸ், போட்டுக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களைக் கண்டவுடன் கிராமத்திலுள்ளவர்கள் பயப்படுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுடன் குடியானவர்கள் நெருங்கிப் பழகுகிறதில்லை. கிராம ஜனங்களுடைய நடையுடைபாவனைக்குத் தக்க உடைகளைத் தரித்துக்கொண்டு வந்தால் அவர்களைக் கண்டால் பயப்படமாட்டார்கள். நெருங்கிப் பழகுவார்கள். நான் குற்றமாக ஒன்றும் அப்படிச் சொல்லவில்லை. அப்படிச் செய்யாத பலபேர்கள் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் (Director of Agriculture) இடத்தில் சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன். 7–[illegible] p.m.

"தாலூக்காக்களிலிருக்கிற டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் என்ன செய்கிறார்கள்? அவர்கள் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் ஒரு மேஸ்திரி, ஒரு மெஸெஞ்சர்; அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் சம்பளத்தைப்பற்றிச் சொல்லவில்லை. இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் பெரிய குடித்தனக்காரர்களிடத்தில் போகலாம். அவர்களுடைய நிலங்களில் நாலு ஏககராவில் பண்ணையாகவைத்து நவீன முறைப்படி ஸையன்டிபிக்காக இன்னமாதிரி விதையுங்கள் என்று சொல்லலாம். அப்படி விதைத்து நல்ல பலன் தருகிறதைக் காண்பிக்கலாம். அப்படிச் சொன்னால் கேட்கத் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த மாதிரி விதைக்கிறபோது ஒரு ஏக்கராவில் பருத்தி எட்டுப் பொதி ஆகிறதென்று வைத்துக்கொண்டால், மற்ற சாதாரணமாக விதைக்கிற இடங்களிலே ஒரு ஏக்கராவில் மூன்று பொதி நாலு பொதியானால் மற்ற விவசாயிகளுக்கு நவீன முறைப்படி (ஸையன்டிபிக்காக) விதைக்கிறதிலிருக்கிற அனுகூலம் தெரியும். பெரிய குடித்தனக்காரர்கள் அந்த மாதிரி விதைக்கிற பண்ணைகளைப் போய் பக்கத்துக் குடித்தனக்காரர்களைப் பார்க்கச் சொன்னால் அவர்கள் போய் பார்ப்பார்கள். ஆனால் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்களைக் கேட்டால் நாங்கள் சொன்னால் ஜனங்கள் விவசாயிகள் கேட்பதில்லை, ஜனங்களுக்குப் படிப்பில்லை, விவேகமில்லை, என்று சொல்லுகிறார்களே யொழிய வேலை செய்கிறதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு தாலூக்காவிலும் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்களை சர்க்கார் எதற்காக ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள்? விவசாயிகளிடத்தில் போய், நவீன விவசாய முறைப்படி விவசாயம் செய்யும்படி செய்து அவர்களை முன்னேற்றமடையச் செய்வதற்காக

ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்கள் அப்படி அவர்கள் வேலை செய்யவேயில்லை. இன்னொன்று பாருங்கள். கோயமுத்தூரில் விவசாய காலேஜ் இருக்கிறது. அங்கே படிப்புக்காக ஒரு விவசாயப் பண்ணை வைத்து நடத்துகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் நடத்துகிற மாதிரியைப் பார்த்தால் கொஞ்சமும் லாபம் கிடையாது. அந்த மாதிரி ஒரு குடித்தனக்காரன் நடத்தினால் பெரிய நஷ்டத்துக்குள்ளாக வேண்டிவரும். நிலங்களை எல்லாம் விற்று ஓட்டாண்டி நிலைமைக்கு வரவேண்டியதுதான். இப்பொழுது செய்யவேண்டியதென்னவென்றால் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் பெரிய குடித்தனக்காரர்களை பண்ணைகளில் நாலு ஏக்கராவிலோ ஐந்து ஏக்கராவிலோ நவீன முறையில் பலவிதமான பயிர்களிடும்படி காண்பித்து, பருத்தி, கரும்பு முதலிய பயிர்களிட சொல்லி அவர்களுக்கு அதனால் பலன் உண்டாகிறதை நிரூபித்து விவசாயிகள் மற்றவர்கள் அதைப்போய்ப்பார்த்து அந்த மாதிரி விவசாயஞ் செய்து விவசாயத்தை விர்த்திக்குக் கொண்டுவரும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்.

" கடைசியாக, சிறு பிள்ளைகளுக்கு பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் விவசாயத்தைப்பற்றிக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அம்மாதிரி இப்பொழுது நடக்கவில்லை. பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கு அருகாமையில் சிறு விவசாயப் பண்ணைகள்; அந்தப் பண்ணைகளில் சிறு பிள்ளைகளுக்கு விவசாயப் படிப்புக் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கும்படி ஏற்பாடுசெய்யலாம். அப்படி செய்தால் பள்ளிக்கூடப் படிப்பு முடிந்ததும் அந்தத் தொழிலைச் செய்வார்கள். வார்தா ஸ்கீமில் தொழில் படிப்பு இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் விவசாயப் படிப்பு இருக்கிறதோ என்னமோ தெரியாது. விவசாயப் படிப்பு கிராமப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் சிறு பிள்ளைகளுக்குக் கற்றுக் கொடுக்கும்படி ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமாறு சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" விவசாய டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்காரர்கள் சரியாக வேலை செய்யவில்லை. குடித்தனக்காரர்களிடத்தில் போய் சரியாக விவசாய விருத்திக்கான வேலை செய்யவில்லை. அவர்களிடத்தில் நன்றாக வேலை வாங்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். குடித்தனக்காரர்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது செய்யும் விவசாயத்திலிருந்து உண்டாவதைவிட ஜாஸ்தியாக லாபத்துடன் பொருள்கள் உண்டாகும்படி செய்வதோடு மற்ற நாடுகளில் நூதன முறைகளை அனுஷ்டித்து விவசாயத்தில் லாபமடைகிறமாதிரி இங்கேயும் லாபமடையும்படி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இந்த விவசாய மானியத்தை ஆதரிக்கும் முறையில் என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

5 * THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. Speaker, at the outset I may say that most of the members who criticized the administration of the Agricultural Department have not, apparently, seen the Administration Report for the last year. The report gives a clear indication of the various activities of the Agricultural Department and the results of the various researches that have been carried out. I am thankful to my hon. Friend Mr. Reid who has given the House an impartial view of the results obtained in the department. My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, I am sorry to say, has not studied the results of the activities of the department during the last twelve months. He passed a sweeping remark that no progress has been made in this department and that the Government have no practical policy in this department. Sir, I may tell him that no sooner than this Government assumed office the first and foremost matter that engaged their attention was the reorganization of the department. By this action they were able to reduce the number of Deputy Directors from eight to four and to increase the number of Assistant Directors from 10 to 13. The Government have increased also the number of demonstrators by 37

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with a view to have one demonstrator for each taluk. We have attached one demonstration maistri to each demonstrator and we have 45 more demonstration maistris. We have distributed these people among the various districts according to their need.

" Sir, the Agricultural Department is not concerned with research alone. They have various other activities such as the examination of the best manure and the best seed, over and above these the marketing activities. The department has been able to produce various new strains of seed and from the statement which I shall presently read out to the House, hon. Members will be convinced that the department has done very useful work in that line. Sir, in the year 1935–36, the new paddy strain was used in 1,277,585 acres, but in the year 1937–38, the acreage was 1,774,024. Coming to cotton, Sir, under Cambodia, whereas formerly we had only 213,339 acres in 1935–36, in 1937–38 the acreage under Cambodia cultivation was 246,367. The area under Karunganni cotton in 1935–36 was 182,255, but in 1937–38 it reached 203,924 acres. Under Western (H. I.) the area under cultivation was 220,000 in 1935–36, but in 1937–38 it rose to 222,843 acres. The area under cultivation with Northerns (N. 14.) in 1935–36 was 2,370 acres and in 1937–38 it reached 4,368 acres. Sugarcane under the new strain in 1935–36 was grown in 39,597 acres and it rose to 46,064 acres in 1937–38.

	1935–36. Number of acres.	1937–38. Number of acres.
Tobacco under the new strain ..	50,000	88,716
Potatoes under the new strain ..	12,508	17,131

8 p.m.

From the above, the House will understand that we have made great strides in the matter of improvement of new strains. To explain the great benefits that have been brought to this Province by way of marketing facilities, I have a few charts here from which hon. Members can see that there has been a uniform rise in the prices of all products. Especially in cane jaggery it has grown in price and I think it has been admitted by all Members of this House. I may inform my hon. Friend Mr. Krishna Rao that during the last year it has been possible to analyse 2,541 soils brought from various districts. Apart from that, it was also possible for the Research Institute in Coimbatore to examine 46 kinds of different grasses and we have 7,963 demonstration plots which are being attended to by various demonstrators in this Province. My hon. Friend referred to the grants made to the ryots in the Orissa Province by the Orissa Government. He also advocated that we must subsidize the farmers here. I may tell hon. Members here that this Government is not behind the Orissa Government, but they have gone, far beyond what Orissa Province had done, to help the ryots here with big amounts of grants not only for the purpose of establishing godowns but for the purpose of selling the produce and also help them generally

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in all agricultural activities. I may say that during the year 1937–38 loans amounting to 62·12 lakhs were issued to members on the security of produce as against 26·16 lakhs in the previous year and Government are also seeing to the establishment of godowns by the various agricultural societies by giving them a grant of 25 per cent of the total cost and also by giving them a loan to the extent of 75 per cent at a cheap rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest. My Friend also asked whether this Government has undertaken experiments in electro-culture. I may tell you we have already deputed an officer to the United Provinces to see for himself what is happening in that Province in regard to this subject. He has come back and is experimenting in the Agricultural College. We expect to get the results from him during the month of June.

" My Friend Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan raised the point that much of a propaganda has not been done. I would invite him to the various exhibitions that are taking place in most of the districts in our Province, where the Agriculture Department has been exhibiting from the very seed up to the crop they harvest and the various methods they are adopting. But I may tell you that while I had been on tour in the various districts, I discussed this matter with the various ryots and they told me in plain language that the various exhibitions that are being carried on have given them enough and more knowledge as to the activities carried on by this department. He said that, having one demonstrator, it is not possible for him to visit all the several villages that form a taluk. He also said that it was possible for a demonstrator to pay a visit only once a year to each village. But I may tell you that all the demonstrators have been asked to tour at least 20 days in the month and they have been given opportunities to establish their demonstration plots where they do researches for raising better crops. My hon. Friend Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi said . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think the Hon. Minister may be as brief as possible instead of giving categorical replies to all the criticisms made by all hon. Members including Congress Members also."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Without going to the various points raised by him, I may say that he has appealed to the Government to remove the headquarters of the Deputy Director of Agriculture from Cuddapah to Madanapalle. My opinion is that the Government, after a careful consideration of this matter, have come to this conclusion, viz., of having the headquarters of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Cuddapah, but I shall further examine whether it is possible to accept the suggestion of the hon. Member.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Ahmed Batcha said . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" Does the Hon. Minister expect another Demand to be taken up? At least we may finish two more Demands to-night."

HON. MEMBERS :—" Too late now, Sir. We can finish only one more. Most of the Members have also gone already."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let them go. It is only 8 o'clock. Hon. Members must be present until the deliberations are concluded. We will try to finish as many Demands as possible."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" I am sorry that my Fried Mr. Ahmed Batcha has not read the Administration Report properly. It clearly shows what the Government have done in the matter of fruit research. Government have already established a research station at Kodur and I may tell him it has done good work. It has been possible to create several nurseries and I know, as a matter of fact, that people from many districts have indented upon that nursery for their grafted plants. He also referred to apiary and production of honey. I may tell him that from the Administration Report he will find what has been done in the matter of apiary. We have appointed a demonstrator for Chittoor. He has surveyed the whole district and he has introduced hives in many places and the Government have got under consideration the proposal to extend the work to other districts also. I may also point out that now research is being carried on in several stations such as Coonoor, Coimbatore, Samalkot and Taliparamba. He also referred to branding that is resorted to by people. The Government have already issued leaflets pointing out the economic waste involved in such a practice. But people say that for purposes of identification, they require this thing. But so far as the Government are concerned, they are watching the activities of people with regard to branding and it is only a question of time before they bring pressure on people who are taking themselves to that bad practice.

" Mr. Subba Rao said that the number of Deputy Directors should be reduced. After carefully considering this question, we have come to the decision that we must have at least four Deputy Directors to cover the whole of the Province.

" Having answered these hon. Members, I would like to say a few words in Tamil for the sake of those Members who spoke in Tamil."

" கனம் சட்டசபை மன்றல் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நம்முடைய அங்கத்தினர்களில் சிலர் தமிழில் பேசினார்கள். அவர்களுக்காகத் தமிழில் பேசுகிறேன். மன்னூர் தாகனார், சுப்பிரமணியம் அவர்கள், சுவாமி சகஜானந்தம் அவர்கள், இராமசாமிக் கவுண்டர் அவர்கள் விவசாய விஷயத்தைப்பற்றிப் பேசினார்கள். முக்கியமாக தாகனார் அவர்கள் நம்முடைய நாட்டில் விவசாயத்திற்கு வேண்டிய வசதி நம்முடைய சர்க்கார் செய்யவில்லை என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். அது மிகவும் விசனகரமா

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யிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் வில்லேஜ் காலண்டர் புஸ்தகத்தையும் சென்ற வருஷத்திய அறிக்கையையும் வாசித்திருந்தால் இத்தகைய வசைமொழியைச் சொல்லியிருக்கமாட்டாரென்று நினைக்கிறேன். வில்லேஜ் காலண்டர் ஆங்கிலத்தில் மாத்திரமில்லை. தமிழிலும், தெலுங்கிலும் பிரசுரஞ் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைப் படித்துத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன். அவர் ஒவ்வொரு தேவைகளைப்பற்றியும் சொன்னார். அது விஷயமாக அவர் நான் முதலில் சொன்னபடி அறிக்கையைப் படித்து எவ்வளவுதூரம் ஜனங்களை தேவைகளைப் பூர்த்திசெய்திருக்கிறதென்பதை தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அவர், களை எடுப்பதைப்பற்றி நம்முடைய நாட்டிலுள்ள ஜனங்களுக்குத் தெரியாதென்று சொன்னார். மிகவும் பரிதாபமான நிலைமை ! அப்படியில்லை என்று நான் சொல்லவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. நம்முடைய நாடானது விவசாயிகள் நிறைந்த நாடு. களை எடுக்கிறதுமாத்திரமல்ல விவசாயத்தில் சகல விஷயங்களும் தெரியும். இப்பொழுது கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிற நவீனமுறையில் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியாமலிருக்கலாம். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது சர்க்கார் முக்கியமாய் டிமான்ஸ்டிரேட்டர்கள் (Demonstrators) மேஸ்திரிகள் (Maistris) மூலமாக எவ்வளவுதூரம் அவர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்துகொண்டுதான் வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் சில இடங்களில் போதுமான வசதி யில்லாது கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்களென்று சொன்னார். கண்டிப்பாக இந்த சர்க்கார் அதைக் கவனிப்பார்கள்.

"நமது சுவாமி சகஜானந்தம் அவர்கள் பேசுங்காலத்தில் தற்பொழுது விவசாய விஷயத்தில் இந்த சர்க்கார் அதிகம் செய்யவில்லை என்று சொன்னார். ஆனால் உண்மையில் தூங்குகிறவர்களை சுலுவாக எழுப்பலாம். பாசாங்கு பண்ணிக்கொண்டு தூங்குகிறவர்களை எழுப்பமுடியாது என்று சொல்லவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அவருக்குத் தெரிந்தவரையில் இந்த வருஷத்தில் மாத்திரமல்ல அநேக வருஷங்களாய் நம்முடைய சர்க்கார் அநேகவிதமான நவீன விவசாயமுறைகளைச் செய்துகொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் ஊரில் திண்டிவனம் என்ற இடத்தில் மல்லாக்கொட்டை விஷயமாக எவ்விதமாக நம்முடைய அரசாங்கத்தார் விஷயங்களை நடத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்களென்பது அவர்களுக்கே தெரியும். போதுமான நல்ல விதைகளை உண்டாக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். சமீபத்தில் கூட ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு முன்பு ஏற்பாடுசெய்து விளைபொருள்களை நன்றாகக் கொடுக்குமாறு பாடுபடுகிறோம் என்பது அவர்களுக்கே தெரியும். பண்ணையாட்களுடைய விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி இந்த மானியத்தில பேச ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டார். தகுந்த காலத்தில் பேசியிருந்தால் நன்றாக இருந்திருக்கும். அவர் கடைசியாகச் சொன்னார். பஞ்சகாலமாகிவிட்டதினால் இருந்த விதைகளையெல்லாம் ஜனங்கள் சாப்பிட்டுவிட்டார்கள். விதை வசதி ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார். அது விஷயத்தைக் கவனித்து சர்க்கார் வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்கள். விவசாயப்பண்ணையாட்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார். எங்கெங்கே கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று பார்த்து சர்க்கார் கொடுக்கிறார்கள்.

"இராமசாமிக் கவுண்டர் அவர்கள் விவசாய இலாகாவில் டிமான்ஸ்ட்ரேட்டர்கள் (Demonstrators) வேலை சரியாகச் செய்யவில்லை என்று சொன்னார். அவருடைய சொஸைட்டிக்கு Demonstrator வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டு Demonstrator கொடுத்தது எனக்குத் தெரியும். ஆனால் அவர் ஏதோ ஒரு Demonstrator விஷயத்தைப்பற்றிச் சொன்னார். ஆனால் அவர் பார்த்த ஒரு Demonstrator இவ்விதமாக இருக்கலாம். பொதுவாக Demonstrators நல்ல விதமாக வேலை செய்வதாகத்தான் தெரிகிறது. Demonstrators தரிக்கிற உடைகளைப்பற்றிச் சொன்னார். இந்த 130 வருஷக் காலமாக நடந்துவந்த விஷயத்தை திடீரென மாற்றமுடியாது அவர்கள் தெரிந்துகொண்டு மாற்றிக்கொள்ளவேண்டியது அவர்களுடைய பொறுப்பு. நாங்கள் போன ஜில்லாக்களில் அநேக இடங்களில் Demonstrators தங்களுடைய உடைகளை மாற்றிக்கொண்டிருப்பதை நாங்

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கள் பார்த்தோம். அவர் விவசாய விஷயமாகப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்க வசதி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார். எங்களுக்குத் தெரிந்தவரையில் ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஒவ்வொரு இடத்திலும் ஒரு சிறு பண்ணையைவைத்து அந்த ஊரில் என்ன விளைச்சல் விவசாயம் நடக்கிறதோ அதைச் சொல்லிக்கொடுக்கிறதாகத் தெரிகிறது.

"I think I have tried to answer all the points raised by my hon. Friend and I request the hon. Member to withdraw his cut motion."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—"I withdraw the cut motion, Sir."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—VETERINARY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall take up Demand XIX."

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"To-morrow, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Veterinary and Agriculture are so intimately connected that almost all the points on this Demand have been exhaustively dealt with on the Agriculture Demand. We shall dispose of Veterinary Demand also."

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 11,97,100 *under Demand XIX—Veterinary.*'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does any hon. Member move any cut motion?"

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—CO-OPERATION.

* SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"We shall take up this Demand to-morrow, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall take up the Industries Demand to-morrow."

* THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Sir, I beg to move—

that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,77,700 *under Demand XX—Co-operation.*"

* SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:—"Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 13,77,700 *for Co-operation be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"My object in giving notice of this cut motion is to discuss the general policy of the Government and to emphasize the need for the establishment of more and more land mortgage banks, so

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that every taluk may have one such bank. The Agriculturists Debt Relief Act has virtually put out of action the machinery of private credit. The sowcar is afraid of lending to the agriculturist; so is every private investor. Till recently a landlord was deemed to be the safest person to lend to; but now as the direct result of the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act he is unable to command private credit facilities, and so he has to look to the Land Mortgage Bank for money. The existing number of Land Mortgage Banks is hardly sufficient to cope with the increasing demand. Besides, money should be made available to the agriculturists at reasonable rates of interest. I would consider 5 per cent as a reasonable rate. To ask the agriculturist to pay 6 per cent interest or even more is to subject him to hardship. In this connexion I may recall the Hon. the Prime Minister's plea for raising the rate of interest. I am unable to appreciate his plea. He knows that, whatever may be its ultimate and general benefit, the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act has deprived the Agriculturists of private credit facilities, and it is not fair to ask him to pay a high rate of interest to the Land Mortgage Bank. Moreover, when the credit worthiness of the Government is high, and plenty of money is available at three or three and a half per cent, what is the meaning in raising the rate of interest? What is the policy of the Government in this matter? Is it one of helpfulness to the struggling agriculturist, or one of making business out of his helplessness? In any case, the Hon. the Prime Minister's plea for a high rate of interest comes with ill grace from a Government which professes to exist and work for the welfare of the poor, and it was least expected.

"The society for consolidation of holdings which has been working in my constituency, and which is the first of its kind, has turned out good work, as far as it could go as an experiment. My experience, however, is the society cannot go far enough, and if it does not go far enough it is practically futile. I I think legislation is called for. It is difficult to persuade the agriculturists to agree to consolidation of their holdings unless they are called upon to do so. Of course it is quite obvious to them that consolidation of holdings would be to their advantage, but human nature being what it is, it is difficult to bring about compromises. Therefore, I suggest to the Government to undertake legislation to prevent uneconomic fragmentation and facilitate consolidation of holdings, as well as to establish throughout the Province a net-work of societies for effecting consolidation.

"In my opinion the Co-operative Department is not at all working satisfactorily. It is over-staffed. There are too many Inspectors of all sorts who do precious little. For every taluk there is an auditor to scrutinize the accounts of the societies. The Inspectors simply go about from society to society, and do not do anything to improve their condition, by giving them instructions

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and guidance. I desire to invite the attention of the Government to the condition of the societies in liquidation. These societies have an unlimited basis; that is to say, all of their members are liable to pay the debts due to them. Suppose a society consists of 100 members. Out of these 40 would have borrowed. These loans are recoverable from all the members collectively. What happens is, when a society goes into liquidation its members take good care to alienate their properties in favour of relatives and thus escape the liability to pay the money due to it. This happens because the liquidator fails to take prompt action. I know there are societies in liquidation, in regard to which the sums of money due have been left uncollected for years, in some cases even for as long a period as ten years. If the debtors are unable to return the loans they have taken and if the other members who are liable to pay manage to circumvent the law, the society loses the money; the loss is ultimately thrown on the Central Co-operative Bank which has advanced money to the societies. This is a matter in regard to which the Government should see that prompt and effective action is taken.

" In conclusion I have to thank the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour for choosing an able and experienced officer and placing him as the head of the administration. I hope that the new officer who has entered upon his duties recently will take much interest in this department and put it in a proper way. I know surely that by his vast experience in various departments, he will thoroughly overhaul the whole department under his control. With these words I move the cut motion which stands in my name."

* Dr. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of a cut motion with a view to discuss the state of depressed class societies in the Province. I want also to discuss the state of Christian societies. If we look into the report of the Co-operative Department we will find that thousands of societies are under liquidation. From the statistics we find that in the districts of Cuddapah and Kurnool a number of depressed class and Christian societies are under liquidation. I do not know whether this Government has gone into the matter and found out the reason for this state of affairs. I can attribute this to the laxity of the executive officers in the district. I know, Sir, that these societies are not at all properly supervised by the unions. I heard of late the depressed class societies and the Christian societies are removed from the general administration of the Co-operative Department. They have become no-man's children. Therefore these societies have managed their affairs badly and gone into liquidation. I therefore want to ask the Hon. Minister for Development what steps this Government is going to take in order to revive those societies. I also came to understand that the primary bank, namely, the Christian Central Bank, which has been catering to the needs of these societies has gone into liquidation owing to

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some defalcation of accounts by the manager. I want to know whether this Government is going to amalgamate these depressed classes societies with the other societies in the districts so that they may be able to draw their loans from the district banks. I think, Sir, it is high time that they adopted the policy of amalgamating these societies with the other societies in the district so that they may be able to draw loans and advances from the District Central Bank and also have the benefit of their supervision.

"I should like to say a few words on the general policy of the Government with regard to co-operation. Sir, there is great need for disseminating the knowledge of co-operation among people engaged in cottage industries. Cottage industries are very poorly developed because of lack of co-operative societies and the lack of funds necessary for developing them. I therefore urge that more co-operative societies should be started among the artisan classes and among the small cottage industrialists. Foreign countries like Itlay, Japan and France have developed various kinds of co-operative societies. In Italy there are societies for printers, electricians and glass blowers. There are also societies sponsored and aided by the State for fruit cultivation, for making wine and for oil pressing. In France also there are societies for tanning, metal works and printing. The Government grant loans at 2 per cent only, the loans being payable within 5 to 25 years. Sir, I would urge, if we want to improve the industries of our country, that we should follow some of these advanced methods of co-operation. With these few words, Sir, I support the cut motion."

8-15 p.m. * V. S. T. SHAIK MANSOOR THARAGANAR SAHIB BAHADUR: —"மேன்மைதங்கிய **Speaker** அவர்களே, இந்த மாகாணத்தில் கூட்டுறவால் நெசவுத் தொழில் செய்யப்படுகிறது. இந்த நெசவுத் தொழில் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் க்ஷீணதிசையை அடைந்துகொண்டுவருகிறது. கீழ் தேசங்களிலிருந்தும் மேல் தேசங்களிலிருந்தும் ஏராளமான ஜவுளிகள் குறைந்த விலைக்கு மூன்றுமாத ஆறுமாத தவணைக்கு இந்த மாகாணத்து வியாபாரிகளுக்குக் கிடைப்பதால் அவர்கள் கடனுக்கு வாங்கி சிறிய வியாபாரிகளுக்குக் கடனுக்கு விற்கிறார்கள். கூட்டுறவில் செய்யும் ஜவுளிகளைக் கடனுக்கு விற்பனைசெய்ய முடியாததினால் கூட்டுறவுமுறையில் தயார்செய்யும்படியான ஜவுளிகளை விற்று முதல் செய்யமுடியாமல் ஸ்டோரில் வருஷக்கணக்காக இருந்துவருகிறது. மேன்மைதங்கிய மினிஸ்டர் கிரி (**Hon. Sri V. V. Giri**) அவர்கள் திருநெல்வேலிக்கு விஜயஞ்செய்தபோது எங்கள் ஊர் மேலப்பாளையத்தில் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கும் **Weavers Co-operative** சொஸைட்டிக்கு வரவழைத்தோம். அங்கு வந்தார்கள். நாங்கள் செய்திருக்கக்கூடிய சரக்குகளை நேரில் அவர்களுக்குக்காட்டி எங்களுடைய கஷ்ட நஷ்டங்களை தெரிவித்தோம். அவர்கள் கவனிக்கிறதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். கவனித்துமிருக்கிறார்கள் எனினும் இன்னும் எங்கள் குறை நிவர்த்தியாகவில்லை. திருநெல்வேலியில் உற்பத்தியாகும் ஜவுளி பூராவும் பர்மாவுக்கு ஏற்றுமதியாகிறது. எங்கள் சொஸைட்டிச் சரக்குகளை அனுப்பமுடியவில்லை. மற்ற வியாபாரிகள் பர்மாவுக்கு அனுப்பி ஏராளமான லாபம் அவர்களுக்கு

கிடைக்கிறது. கடன் கொடுக்க வசதியில்லாததினால் நாங்கள் பர்மாவுக்கு அனுப்ப முடியவில்லை. பர்மாவிலிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கும் எங்களுக்கும் கூட்டுறவு தொடர்பில்லாததினால் அனுப்பமுடியவில்லை. மேலப்பாளையம் சொஸைட்டி நஷ்டத்தில் வேலைசெய்கிறது. உள்ளூரில் போக்கத்துக்கு விற்கமுடியவில்லை. சில்லரை வியாபாரிகள் கடனுக்கு விற்றுவருவதினால் நாங்கள் கடனுக்கு விற்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆகையினால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கடனுக்கு எங்களுடைய சொஸைட்டிச் சரக்குகளை விற்று முதல் செய்ய அனுமதிதரும்படி ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். மேலப்பாளையம் சொஸைட்டிச் சரக்குகளை பர்மாவுக்கு அனுப்ப அனுமதி கொடுக்கும்படியும் அப்படி அனுப்புவதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்துதரும்படியும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைத் தயவுடையாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்".

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour on two definite achievements during this year, viz., the appointment of a Committee on Co-operation and the appointment of an Indian as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Last year, Sir, in my speech on this Demand, I made these suggestions, and I am glad that these two things have been achieved during this year. I look forward to the next year for a definite turn for the better to the co-operative movement.

" Mr. Speaker, the movement is to-day faced with a stalemate. We cannot depend upon the present lines or channels through which the movement is running. There must be a re-orientation of policy. I would plead, Sir, for a change in the basis of the movement from unlimited liability to limited liability. It is only then that we will be able to enlist into the societies people who have got some property in each village and be able to cater to the needs of the agriculturists. As it happens now, the individual borrowing power of the members is fixed on a common basis, with the result that the man who has got properties and one who has none are both borrowing the same amounts, and it is giving scope for *benami* transactions. Now, if that is changed and if each man is given an individual maximum borrowing power as fixed by the general body of the particular society, and approved by the Central Bank and by the local Deputy Registrar, this problem would be very much solved.

" Then there is the question of the depressed class societies to which my hon. Friend Dr. Samuel referred. Unfortunately, depressed class societies from the very beginning were separated from the main chain of the co-operative movement. They were financed by the Christian Co-operative Central Bank as against the ordinary societies which were being financed by the Central Bank. The Christian Co-operative Bank has now gone into liquidation on account of the failure of some of the societies to which the Bank had advanced money. I know, Sir, that the department has given a number of inspectors to look after these depressed

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class societies; but unfortunately the borrowings have been little and they were not encouraged, with the result that many of the societies have failed and the complaint that many of them are being liquidated year after year is proved. They are not at all flourishing and at this rate you can see that not even two per cent of the societies are in good working order. I plead, Sir, that these depressed class societies should be abolished at once and the members who are members of these societies at present should be admitted into the ordinary co-operative societies and help given to them. You will thus be adding human material in each village for the proper collection of money and for giving loans at the proper seasons. Unless this is done, there is no scope for betterment.

"Next I come to the question of the Land Mortgage Bank. I am glad, Sir, that the Government are thinking of the abolition of nominations to the primaries. As a matter of fact, we can feel proud that the Land Mortgage Bank in our province has been a great success. In these days, Sir, when on account of the Debt Relief Act, credit in the villages has fallen low, as a matter of fact, on account of the cornering of money by some of the money-lenders, the Land Mortgage Bank has gone to the rescue of many of the debtors whose debts have been scaled down. With the additional guarantee given by the Government, I do hope, Sir, that the conditions in the villages will be bettered. I also think, Sir, that if multi-purpose societies are encouraged in various places, the problem may be solved. For, through these multi-purpose societies, you will be giving credit to any individual not only for his current needs but also for meeting his prior commitments and also money for investment on agricultural materials, etc. If these three things are combined in a particular society, it will be possible to encourage rural credit in these days. Therefore, Sir, I also plead for their encouragement.

"Now, Sir, that the Committee on Co-operation are to sit in the near future, I hope, with the encouragement and sympathy shown by the Government, they would be able to evolve a scheme that will suit the rural population; that they would go to the root of the matter and change the policy of the movement itself and make co-operation a brilliant success in this province.

"With these few words, Sir, I support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour.

" అధ్యక్ష మహాశయా, సహకారోద్యమమునుగూర్చి మంత్రివర్గమువారు తీసుకు వచ్చిన తీర్మానమును నేను బలపరుచుచున్నాను. మన ప్రభుత్వమువారు గత సంవత్సరములో ఒక హిందూ దేశీయుని సహకారోద్యమ రెజిస్ట్రారుగా వేయుటవల్లను, సహకార విచారణ సంఘమును నియమించుటవల్లను, సహకారోద్యమమునకు వారు

చాలవరకు ఉపకారముచేసినారు. ప్రభుత్వమువారిని నేను కొన్ని కోరికలను కోరినాను. నిమ్నజాతుల కుద్దేశింపబడిన సహకారి సంఘములను రద్దుపఱచి అందున్న సభ్యులను మామూలు గ్రామ సహకారసంఘములలో చేర్చుకొనుటకు అవకాశము కల్పించవలెనని, అందువల్ల నిమ్నజాతులకు సహకారము జరుగగలదనియు, పరపతి సహకారసంఘములను హెచ్చుచేయవలసినదనియు కోరినాను. భూమి తనఖా బ్యాంకులను వృద్ధిచేసినందుకు ప్రభుత్వమువారి నభినందించుచు, వాటివల్ల ప్రజలకు యెక్కువగా లాభములు చేయవలెనని కోరినాను. రాబోవు సంవత్సరములో తప్పక సహకారోద్యమమునకు ప్రభుత్వమువారు యింకను హెచ్చు సహాయము చేయుదురని నమ్ముచు యీ డిమాండును బలపఱచుచున్నాను."

* THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" Mr. Speaker, many words are not necessary from me. I have stated last year and the year before that so far as success in the co-operative movement is concerned, it largely depends on the non-official help and co-operation; because, the co-operative movement is essentially a non-official movement. I do not wish to say that during the period of this present Government much has been done; but I can assure you, Sir, that the movement has certainly turned the corner, and I feel that we are advancing from strength to strength. So far as organization of unions is concerned, we are looking first for rectification and consolidation, and at the same time to the organization of new co-operative unions, as much as possible. Sir, in the year 1932–33, the number of societies registered was 107: in 1933–34, it was 140; in 1934–35, it was 100; in 1935–36, it was 211; in 1936–37, it was 326; in 1937–38, it was 446; and in 1938–39, it is 502.

" I am glad, Sir, that Mr. Kala Venkata Rao has referred to the appointment of a Committee on Co-operation. I am sure that the experts that we have on that committee, with their great experience, will bring to the help of the movement new ideas; and I do hope there will be a real re-orientation of policy when the Committee finishes its deliberations. The questionnaire is quite wide, extending almost from China to Peru, and therefore if the Committee can devote its full time and attention and energy to the whole questionnaire and secure the necessary evidence and produce a report worthy of the experts that are on it, I am quite sure there will certainly be a re-orientation of the co-operative movement in this Presidency.

" Mr. Venkata Rao has stated that there has been a stalemate. I am sorry to say I cannot agree with him entirely, though I do not wish to deny that much more has to be done. Whether as regards overdues or as regards increase in transactions, I do not wish to trouble the House with figures; still, if figures are of any value, I think we have made very much progress so far as these troublesome questions are concerned.

" Mr. Venkata Rao also referred to the question of starting multi-purpose societies. I want to inform hon. Members that we are already making experiments in this direction and wherever there is a desire to organize multi-purpose societies with limited liability, the Government are prepared to assist the formation of such societies. We have already given directions to this effect: but however, there are differences of opinion and we have referred this question to the Committee on Co-operation. I do hope that the Co-operation Committee will give constructive suggestions as to how to build up these multi-purpose societies. We have also directed, Sir, that even the existing societies can be re-organized for multi-purpose objects and this also is being done steadily, though slowly.

" The question of the depressed class societies has been raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Samuel. I am very glad, my esteemed friend Mr. Venkata Rao has replied to him. The bane of the co-operative movement or of any movement in this country is the communal aspect. The communal aspect cannot apply to any part of the co-operative movement. If the depressed class societies and the Christian societies had been working along with the ordinary societies, this thing would not have occurred. I desire to state, however, what the department has been doing in this
-30 matter. There has been a general improvement in the collections.
.m. The Registrar directed his officers to see that special measures of relief are afforded to the members of the depressed class societies by way of scaling down of debts, so that after scaling down the debts, they might obtain sufficient loans for their agricultural and economic requirements. The Central Banks have also been exhorted to implement the provisions of the Agriculturists' Relief Act and thereby justify the exemption given to co-operative societies from the operation of the Act. They have been requested to reduce their lending rate to 5 per cent and in any case not to exceed 5½ per cent and that in respect of outstanding loans, the rate should not exceed 6 per cent. Accordingly eleven banks have brought down their lending rates to 5 per cent, and seven others to 5½ per cent and in respect of outstanding loans eleven banks reduced the rate to not more than 6 per cent.

" Sir, so far as the Christian Central Bank liquidation is concerned, there has been mismanagement and we appointed a committee to go into the matter, and we found there was no other go but to liquidate it. But, I can assure hon. Members that the depressed class societies will not suffer in any account, because the ordinary societies that are existing will take over their transactions to a very great extent.

" So far as the Land Mortgage Banks are concerned, our ideal and our objective is at least to have one Land Mortgage Bank for each taluk. We have done a great deal already last year. We

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had twelve more banks brought into existence and now in the present year we are going to have fifteen more banks and I can assure the members of this House that the Government are most anxious, especially after the Debt Relief Act, to help the debtor as much as possible through the Land Mortgage Banks.

" Dr. Samuel referred to the question of the development of the cottage industries on a co-operative basis and I can assure you, Sir, that the Government's desire also is such and they are also doing their best to improve and extend these cottage industries. When we take up the Industries Demand I shall be in a position to state more on what is being done in the matter of the development of cottage industries.

" Mr. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu referred to the question of the consolidation of holdings. We are making every attempt to introduce this on a large scale everywhere but I must admit we have not done as much as was expected of us. I can assure the hon. Member that this question will be tackled in a most careful manner. It is very easy, of course, to say that the Co-operative Department is not working on a satisfactory basis. I want the co-operation of all co-operators, officials and non-officials to make the department work in a more satisfactory manner.

" I do not think I have many more points to answer, and I can assure hon. Members that all the suggestions they have made will always be very carefully considered because I know perfectly well that if this co-operative movement is to succeed, it can only succeed with the help of every member of this House.

" I request the hon. Member who moved the cut motion, to withdraw it, if he so desires."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

MR. SPEAKER:—" We have still got seventeen Demands more and we have got an important Demand to-morrow on which the Hon. Minister has promised to make a statement. Similarly, under Fisheries series of questions are being put almost every day and I would suggest to the Hon. Minister in charge of the Department to make a similar statement of the policy of the Government while moving the Demand so that the discussion may be concentrated on the policy of the Government. Similarly, a brief statement of policy may be made on the other Demands as well by the Ministers concerned while moving the Demand so that we can go on with the business at a very rapid pace and finish all the Demands within time."

VI.—STATEMENT *RE* BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Before we disperse, Sir, I wish to make a statement to you and through you

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to the Members of the House with regard to the programme of work before us. The other day you were kind enough to mention to the House that on the 31st March we shall have these taxation measures and then we would disperse, after the appointment of Select Committees, to meet again on the 20th April. I have been able to consult the Leader of the Opposition, the Muslim Group, the European Group and some other members and we have come to this conclusion. We would rather have it on the 24th April which will give us an interval for the two important Select Committees—one on the Tobacco Bill and the other on the Sales Tax Bill—to meet and consult the trades concerned and make their report. As at present arranged, therefore, I would request you to announce to the House, with the consent of the House, that we adjourn, after finishing our work with regard to the Bills in their preliminary stage, to the 24th of April and not to the 20th of April so that members might arrange their programmes accordingly."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The suggestion that we might finish our legislative programme of work before the 3rd April is worth considering and if we can finish it earlier the better. Otherwise we may have to sit from day to day until the work is finished."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" It is likely to be finished on the 3rd April, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If it is not finished before that time the House will have to sit until the whole work is finished, and then, for the consideration of the Reports of the Select Committees on the Sales Tax Bill and the Tobacco Bill the House will meet on the 24th April."

SRI KONDA VENKATAPPAYYA:—" What about day after to-morrow, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is a holiday."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" We have included that day also in the Budget programme in view of the heavy financial work and we had hoped that we might perhaps have made better progress and disperse after finishing all the Demands. But I am afraid we will have to sit on the 29th also."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Why? If necessary we shall sit even till 9 o'clock to-morrow."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—" We cannot get food in the hotels after 9 p.m., Sir; we can have night session if necessary, but we cannot sit till 9 o'clock."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We can work till 8-30 p.m."

MR. H. S. TOWN:—" Would it not be possible to cut down the question hour during the rest of this session?"

27th March 1939]

MR. SPEAKER:—" The only thing that can be done is that questions may be finished as early as possible. Questions cannot be cut down, but hon. Members may co-operate in putting as few supplementary questions as possible. Unless questions happen to be very important no supplementary question need be put; thus, questions will be finished in 10 or 12 minutes. That will be a good method of disposing of questions and at the same time observing the rules."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. the next day.

VII.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *Notification appended to G.O. No. 375, Development, dated 14th February* 1939, *issuing an amendment to the Madras Commercial Crops Markets (Election) Rules,* 1935.

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[a] Placed on the table on 23rd March 1939.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 1059 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 762 supra].

Revenue from manure leaf during 1937–38.

Name of forest division.	By the Forest department by direct sale.	By Forest Department by the lease of the right of collection to contractors.	By sale in unreserves.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Vizagapatam	..	..	..
Godavari, Upper	..	..	..
Godavari, Lower			
Guntur			
Kurnool, East	82	..	114
Kurnool, South	382	..	..
Kurnool, West	..	..	..
Cuddapah, North	..	189	..
Cuddapah, South	205	355	..
Anantapur	120	..	43
Nellore	468	..	..
Chittoor	18	301	..
Vellore, East	75	730	..
Vellore, West	..	..	..
Salem, North			
Salem, Central	..	101	..
Salem, South	..	3,930	*
Kollegal			
Coimbatore, North			
Coimbatore, South	..	..	..
Madura			
Tinnevelly	14	..	..
Tanjore	..	..	*
The Nilgiris			
South Kanara			
The Wynaad	..	..	..
Nilambur			
Palghat			

* A further report from the Conservator is awaited.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 288 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the *Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 775 supra.*]

STATEMENT I.

Applications for State aid received prior to 14th July 1937 (the date on which the Ministry assumed office) but sanctioned after that date.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			RS.		RS.		
1	23rd March 1935.	G. V. Venkataratnam, Proprietor, The Industrial and Scientific Works, Coimbatore.	1,000	Enlargement of workshop equipment.	800 G.O. No. 2364, Development, dated 22nd September 1938.	1st December 1938.	....
2	3rd September 1936.	The Button Manufacturers Co-operative Production and Sale Society, Limited.	Subsidy Rs. 284.	Button manufacture.	Subsidy Rs. 108, G.O. No. 2374, Development, dated 21st October 1937.	31st March 1938.	....
3	18th November 1936.	Sri Sampanghi L. Venkatachalapathi, Kumbakonam.	7,200	Gold thread manufacture.	6,500 G.O. No. 3075, Development, dated 12th December 1938.	..	Orders authorizing payment issued at the end of February 1939.
4	19th February 1937.	K. Subbarayudu, toy-maker, Kondapalli, Kistna district.	500	For developing toy-industry.	350 G.O. No 2196, Development, dated 27th September 1937.	26th November 1937.	....
5	10th March 1937.	Sri K. Lingiah, Apiary Specialist, Coimbatore.	500	Bee keeping.	400 G.O. No. 401, Development, 14th February 1938.	..	The applicant did not require the loan subsequently as he could not find a surety.
6	14th April 1937.	Sri M. Raghuramraju, Courtallam, Tenkasi.	500	Do.	400 G.O. No. 400, Development, dated 14th February 1938.	31st March 1938.	....

Applications for State aid received prior to 14th July 1937 (the date on which the Ministry assumed office) but sanctioned after that date—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			RS.	..	RS.		
7	8th June 1937.	Mr. F. L. Selva on behalf of the Kollegal Silk Filatures, Limited, Kollegal, Coimbatore.	Subscription of shares Rs. 22,500.	Silk filature.	Subscription of shares of Rs. 19,850, G.O. No. 2361, Development, dated 29th October 1937.	Rs. 9,100 on 31st March 1938, Rs. 4,375 on 18th August 1938, Rs. 4,375 on 31st October 1938.	....

STATEMENT II.

Applications for State aid received from 14th July 1937 to the end of the year.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
1	14th July 1937.	Mohamed Ibrahim Sahib, Carpenter maistri, Rajahmundry.	500	For carpentry industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate—G.O. No. 2528, Development, dated 12th October 1938.
2	29th July 1937.	Sri N. Kunhiraman, The Viswa Bharathi Industrials, Pallikannu P.O., North Malabar.	3,000	For developing his handloom weaving industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate—G.O. No. 1891, Development, dated 2nd August 1938.
3	6th September 1937.	Sri G. Chaganlal C/o Damodhar Envelope Factory, Madras.	10,000	For developing envelope manufacture.	6,500, G.O. No. 3,023, Development, dated 6th December 1938.	..	The payment is pending due to the inability of the applicant to produce the documents called for by the Government Solicitor.
4	31st August 1937.	Sri V. L. Venugopal on behalf of the Standard Tile and Clay Works, Tiruvallur (Proposed to be formed).	Subscription of shares; 10 per cent on Rs. 2 lakhs of issued capital.	For starting a stoneware pipe company in Tiruvallur.	Subscription of shares of Rs. 10,000—G.O. No. 584, Development, dated 7th March 1938.	..	The applicant dropped the idea of floating a public limited company.
5	10th September 1937.	Sri N. Veeraraghavan, Choolai, Madras.	1,000	For starting enamelled and other allied jewellery works.	..	..	The application was rejected as the applicant failed to furnish the information called for in regard to certain aspects of his application—G.O. No. 1779, Development, dated 22nd July 1938.
6	Do.	Sri T. Ramachandran, Park Town, Madras.	1,000	For starting enamelled and other allied jewellery works.	..	..	Do.

7	Do.	Sri M. Sundaresan, Fort St. George, Madras.	500	For starting lacquer work and cotton painting.	[illegible] the applicant did not adopt the suggestion of the Principal, School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, in regard to the preparation of some samples of work—G.O. No. 249, Development, dated 10th October 1938.
8	18th September 1937.	Sri Ramakrishna Sugar Mills, Kirlampudi.	30,000	Manufacture of sugar ..	The application was rejected as it was considered that the Government have already provided sufficient financial assistance to the concern—G.O. No. 1906, Development, dated 3rd August 1938.
9	Do.	Mr. Earnest John Aiman, Nileshwa shar.	1,000	Tile manufacture ..	The application was rejected as the applicant failed to furnish fuller particulars in regard to certain aspects of his application—G.O. No. 2018, Development, dated 17th August 1938.
10	27th August 1937.	Sri T. T. Ramacharya, Gudiyattam.	500	For starting a coffee-grinding industry.	The application was rejected as it was considered that there was no justification for the grant of a loan to start a coffee grinding industry—G.O. No. 225, Development, dated 26th January 1938.
11	30th August 1937.	Sri D. Dharmalinga Mudaliyar, Annasagaram, Salem district.	1,000	For handloom weaving and dyeing.	The application was rejected as the applicant failed to supply fuller information in regard to certain aspects of his application—G.O. No. 2018, Development, dated 17th August 1938.
12	17th September 1937.	Sri Nooli Veeraraghava Rao, Narasapur, West Godavari district.	1,000	For gingelly oil extracting.	Do.
13	25th September 1937.	Sri P. C. Munuswami Nayakar, Tiruttani.	500	For manufacture of brass bracket lamps.	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate—G.O. No. 1893, Development, dated 2nd August 1938.
14	15th September 1937.	Sri P. S. M. Theerthagiri Chettiyar, Tiruvannamalai.	10,000	Decorticating groundnut, milling paddy, flour grinding, etc.	The application was rejected as the security offered did not vest in the applicant—G.O. No. 1842, Development, dated 30th July 1938.
15	20th October 1937.	Sri Chalapathi Chandrasekara Rao, Bezwada.	500	For starting dairy farming.	The application was rejected as it could not be supported on its merits while the security was inadequate—G.O. No. 1886, Development, dated 2nd August 1938.

Applications for State aid received from 14th July 1937 to the end of the year—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			RS		RS		
16	6th November 1937.	The Andhra Engineering Company, Limited, Vizagapatam, on behalf of the East Coast Ceramic Industries, Limited, Vizagapatam.	40,000	For ceramic industry ..	Subscription of shares of Rs. 20,000—G.O. No. 583, Development, dated 7th March 1938.	..	The disbursement is pending as one of the conditions of the grant has not yet been fulfilled by the company.
17	4th November 1937.	M. Anavaruzaman Khan Sahib, Rajahmundry, East Godavari.	1,000	For the manufacture of paddy-husking machine and for casting and electro-plating.	..	..	The application was rejected as it was doubtful whether the venture would prove a financial success—G.O. No. 1892, Development, dated 2nd August 1938.
18	16th October 1937.	Sri Gundala Kodanda Rao, Vizianagram.	1,000	For starting oil milling industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as no special reasons existed for giving aid to another mill in the same place—G.O. No. 1885, Development, dated 2nd August 1938.
19	29th November 1937.	Sri Mittadoddi Rama Rao, Santhapet, Nellore.	2,000	For manufacturing bread and biscuits on a commercial scale.	2,000 G.O. No. 1993, Development, dated 15th August 1938.	..	The disbursement is pending as the title-deeds in respect of the security offered are not satisfactory.
20	3rd December 1937.	Sri V. Rangabashyam, Naikuppai, Ramnad district.	2,000 Plot of land and supply of cheap electric energy.	For the extraction of vegetable oils for the manufacture of soaps.	..	..	The application was rejected as the prospects of the applicants running the oil mill at a profit were far from hopeful, whilst the security was inadequate—G.O. No. 2494, Development, dated 10th October 1938.
21	15th December 1937.	Sri S. Radhakrishna Ayyar, Vishnumangalam, South Kanara.	500	Paddy husking ..	500 G.O. No. 2948, Development, dated 26th November 1938.	..	The disbursement is pending. The applicant wants to have the period of repayment extended to 20 years, and he has been consulted as to whether he will be prepared to agree to repay in ten years.
22	Do.	Sri V. S. Narayanaswami Ayyar, Kasaragod.	500	Hand-weaving works ..	..	..	He withdrew his application in favour of his brother Sri S. Radhakrishna Ayyar—vide item 21 above.

23	19th November 1937.	The Rural Industries Development Syndicate, Limited, Amalapuram.	10 per cent of the share capital, viz., 10,000.	For the development of coir manufacture.	..	..	The application was rejected by the Board of Industries as it was felt that the amount would be utilized not for the development of the industry but for meeting the arrears of salaries, etc.—G.O. No. 455, Development, dated 23rd February 1939.
24	15th November 1937.	Mr. Elias Silva, Mangalore.	1,500	For the development of the handloom-weaving establishment.	..	..	The Board of Industries did not consider this a fit case for aid as it is considered desirable to eliminate middlemen as far as possible—G.O. No. 526, Development, dated 3rd March 1939
25	17th November 1937.	The Metal Industries, Limited, Shoranur.	A loan of Rs. 10,000 and subscription of shares of Rs. 10,000.	For the development of their business.	..	..	The application was rejected in view of the inadequate security and of the loss sustained by the company in its operations—G.O. No. 1958, Development, dated 9th August 1938.

STATEMENT III.

Applications for State aid received during 1938.

1	3rd January 1938.	Messrs. K. V. Shanthan and Company, Proprietors, Aryan Industrial Bureau, Mysore, Managing Director Sri K. V. Shantan.	Subscription of shares of Rs. 2¼ lakhs in a company proposed to be floated by them.	For starting the manufacture of plywood in the Madras Presidency.	..	..	The application was rejected as the Board was not satisfied that they would be able to carry on such a specialized industry. G.O. No. 1831, Development, dated 29th July 1938.
2	Do.	Sri R. Hanumantha Rao, Nellore.	Guarantee of a cash credit of Rs. 10,000.	For starting the manufacture of electric unit cells and batteries.	..	..	The application was rejected as the applicant failed to supply fuller information in regard to certain aspects of his application. G.O. No. 2018, Development, dated 17th August 1938.
3	4th January 1938.	Sri A. Natesa Pillai, Mount Road, Madras.	10	For purchasing two spinning wheels and cotton.	..	..	Do.
4	4th February 1938.	Messrs. Walter Hugh and Company Limited, 'Rose Hall', Coimbatore, President of the Board of Directors—Mr. A. W. Connolly.	Rs. 35,000 subscription of shares.	For the manufacture of sporting guns, cotton mill machinery parts.	..	..	Application was considered by the Board of Industries at its meetings held on 12th September 1938 and again on 30th January 1939. The Board desired further investigation in view of the highly technical nature of the industry and the matter has been taken up with the company.

Applications for State aid received during 1938—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purposes of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			RS.				
5	14th February 1938.	Mr. G. D. Soans, Mission Compound, Jeppo, Mangalore.	Either a loan or a subsidy of Rs. 500.	For the manufacture of sewing ball, threads, socks, etc.	..	..	The application was rejected as the industry cannot be considered to have an important bearing on the economic development of the country. G.O. No. 523, Development, dated 3rd March 1939.
6	18th February 1938.	Sri S. M. Ramalingam Pillai, Melacheval, Tinnevelly district.	25,000	For dairy farming ..	..	..	The application is under the consideration of Government.
7	22nd February 1938.	Sri K. Pothi Nayakar, Pudupaty, Tiruvengadam post, via Sattur.	Loan of Rs. 300 and subsidy of Rs. 700.	For the invention of an impulse wheel turbine steam engine.	..	..	The applicant gave a statement before the Collector withdrawing his application.
8	17th March 1938.	The Toilets Manufacturing Company, Limited, Chittoor (Information regarding the name of the Managing Director is not available.)	Cash credit of Rs. 5,000 and subscription of shares of Rs. 10,000.	For working capital ..	..	..	The application is under the consideration of Government.
9	18th March 1938.	Messrs. Motamaru Seetharamayya and Sons, merchants, Vizianagram. (Managing Director's name not known.)	15,000	For oil extraction ..	..	..	The applicants subsequently withdrew their application.
10	25th March 1938.	Sri V. L. Venugopal, Standard Tile and Clay Works, Tiruvellore, Madras.	Loan of Rs. 10,000.	For the manufacture of saltglazed stoneware sewage pipes.	..	..	The machinery offered as security was not available for inspection. The Board of Industries considered the application at its meeting held on 6th January 1939 and desired the assets to be further valued.
11	26th March 1938.	Sri M. Rangaswami, Brucepet, Bellary.	Subscription of shares of Rs. 6 lakhs in a company proposed to be floated by him.	For the manufacture of hardware articles, toys, cycles, plywood, etc.	..	..	The application was rejected as the Board was not convinced of the soundness of the scheme or of the ability of the management to conduct successfully the manufacture of so many [illegible]

12	12th April 1938.	Sri Vyaburi Mudaliyar, Tirubuvanam, Tanjore district.	1,000	For silk handloom weaving.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was not adequate.
13	Do.	Sri Sivarama Mudaliyar, Tirubuvanam, Tiru-vidamarudur, Tanjore district.	Amount not specified.	Do.	..	..	Do.
14	28th April 1938.	The Madras Sugars, Limited, Mount Road, Madras. Executive Directors: Diwan Bahadur T. Raghaviah and Rao Bahadur C. Tadulinga Mudaliyar.	Subscription of 10 per cent of the share capital of Rs. 3 lakhs.	Sugar manufacture ..	..	..	The Board of Industries at its meeting held on 29th June 1938 recommended the grant of subscription of Rs. 15,000 subject to the condition that among others the investigation proves that a sufficient supply of coconut and palm jaggery is available from prohibition areas. The investigation is being made in consultation with the Collectors of the districts concerned.
15	12th May 1938.	The Indian Canning Industries Limited Bezwada. Chairman of the Board of Directors: Sri Raja M. Venkatadri Appa Rao Bahadur, Zamindar of Vuyyur.	Subscription of 200 shares of the value of Rs. 20,000.	Canning industry ..	Subscription of shares of the value of Rs. 10,000. (G.O. No. 3186, Development, dated 23rd December 1938.)	..	The payment of the subscription is pending since the company has not satisfied the conditions of the grant.
16	25th May 1938.	The Andhra Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Limited, Madras. Managing Director: Dr. A. Lakshmipathi.	8,000	For developing the pharmacy.	..	..	The application was rejected on the ground that the grant of a loan on the security of the movable assets of the pharmacy would be attended with risk (G. O. No. 2690, Development, dated 29th October 1938).
17	28th May 1938.	Sri R. Srinivasamurthi, Annamalainagar.	450	For starting knitting industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as it was considered that the industry has no bearing on the economic development of the country. (G.O. No. 518, Development, dated 3rd March 1939).
18	4th June 1938.	Miss J. Evelne, Mangalore.	Loan of subsidy of Rs. 200	For purchasing sewing machines.	..		The application was rejected as the Board considered that the co-operative society of which the applicant is a member ought to finance her (G.O. No. 459, Development, dated 23rd February 1939).

Applications for State aid received during 1938—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purposes of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			RS.				
19	6th June 1938.	Sri P. Chinnathambi Mudaliyar, Coimbatore.	500	For beedi manufacture.	..	..	The application was rejected as this cottage industry has no bearing on the economic development of the country (G.O. No. 440, Development, dated 22nd February 1939).
20	11th June 1938.	The Indian Steel Rolling Mills, Limited, Mount Road, Madras. Managing Director: Sri C. Rajam.	Subscription of shares to the value of Rs. 1,11,000 and a debenture loan of Rs. 8 lakhs.	For re-rolling, etc.	..	..	The application was considered by the Board of Industries at its meeting held on 12th September 1938 and was submitted to Government with the Board's recommendations. The question of competition with the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Ltd., is being negotiated.
21	24th June 1938.	The President, the Madras Muslim Industrial Association, Nuzvid. President: Muhammad Abdus Salaam Sahib Bahadur.	5,000	For the construction of a rice mill and groundnut mill.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate (G.O. No. 520, Development, dated 3rd March 1939).
22	4th July 1938.	The Industrial Engineers and Merchants, Limited, Madras. Governing Director: Sri G. Nagaratnam.	50,000	For the re-rolling industry at Bezwada.	..		The report of the valuation of buildings by the Public Works Department is awaited, as the Chief Engineer has referred the matter to the Government. The application was considered by the Board of Industries at its meeting held on 30th January 1939 when the Board desired to have information as to the competition with the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited.
23	Do.	Pandikasala Kunhalivi, Ernad taluk, Malabar.	750	For coir yarn industry	..	..	The applicant who was addressed about five times to specify the value of security has failed to reply so far. The application will be placed before the next meeting of the Board of Industries for rejection by the Director of Industries and Commerce

						..	The applicant is changing the name of the surety for the loan with the result that the Collector has been addressed about the solvency of the last named surety. The Collector has been reminded on 7th February 1939 by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
25	12th July 1938.	The Madras Cottage Industries Home, Nuzvid. Applicant—Muhammad Abdus Salaam Sahib Bahadur.	11,000	For starting cotton spinning and weaving and a number of industries.	..	..	The application was subsequently withdrawn by the applicant.
26	Do.	The Indian Wheelwrights Corporation, Limited, Madras (proposed to be floated). Applicant—L. S. Krishnan.	Subscription of shares of 50 per cent, viz., Rs. 50,000.	For the manufacture of felloes for bullock carts and jutkas.	..	..	The application was rejected as the Board was not satisfied with the scheme.—G.O. No. 2579, Development, dated 17th October 1938.
27	18th July 1938.	Sri B. V. Hariah, Washermanpet, Madras.	1,500	For starting soap manufacture in Madras.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate and the applicant's competency to run the business was doubtful.—G.O. No. 439, Development, dated 22nd February 1939.
28	28th July 1928.	Sri P. V. Hanumantha Rao, Panyam, Kurnool district.	Annual grant of Rs. 5,000 for 5 years and subsidy of Rs. 4,000 for the purchase of machinery.	For fruit canning and preserving.	..	..	The report from the Collector was received on 19th December 1938. The applicant has been requested to state whether he would like to have a loan instead of a subsidy as it is not likely that a subsidy will be granted for the purpose. He was last addressed on 19th January 1939 by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
29	4th August 1938.	Mr. S. T. David, Rayapuram, Madras.	3,000	For working his bone mill at Ennore.	Rs. 3,000 repayable in 5 years at 5 per cent interest.—G.O. No. 3187, Development, dated 23rd December 1938.	..	The disbursement is pending for want of certain documents from the applicant who was last addressed on 19th January 1939. The Government Solicitor has also been addressed on 30th January 1939 to expedite the draft-deed of mortgage.

Applications for State aid received during 1938—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			Rs.				
30	6th August 1938.	Sri T. T. Ramacharya, Gudiyattam, South Arcot.	500	For installing a coffee grinding machine.	..	..	The application was rejected as there was no reason for reconsideration.—G.O. No. 2497, Development, dated 10th October 1938.
31	10th August 1938.	Sri S. T. Vijayaraman, Tranquebar, Tanjore district.	750	For starting a confectionery industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate and as the applicant's competency to undertake the industry was doubtful.—G.O. No. 521, Development, dated 3rd March 1939.
32	Do.	Sri S. Perumalsami Nayudu, Tirubuvanam, Tanjore district.	500	For silk handloom weaving.	..	..	The applicants withdrew their applications when the local Revenue Inspector investigated into the value of the security.
33	Do.	Sri P. Kailasa Mudaliyar, Tirubuvanam, Tanjore district.	500	Do.	..	..	
34	16th August 1938.	The Kalyanpur Sugar Mills, Limited, Kalyanpur.	60,000	For sugar industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as the Board of Industries did not consider this a suitable case for the grant of aid under the Act as the supply of sugarcane can very well be arranged through a sugarcane growers' co-operative society.—G.O. No. 451, Development, dated 23rd February 1939.
35	18th August 1938.	Sri N. P. Subbanna Bhat, Heryadka, South Kanara.	5,000	For starting a soap and chemical works.	..	..	The application was rejected as there are no initial industrial assets as required under section 9 of the Act.—G O. No. 522, Development, dated 3rd March 1939.
36	19th August 1938.	Sri T. Dharmalinga Mudaliyar, Annasagaram, Salem.	1,000	For dyeing and weaving industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as the Board of Industries considered that it was desirable to eliminate middlemen as far as possible.—G.O No. 519, Development, dated 3rd March 1939.

37	23rd August 1938.	Sri Palle Lakshmikantha Sethu Narayanarao, Ramachandrapuram, East Godavari district.	9,000	For developing his printing industry.	..	..	The Collector's report was received on 23rd January 1939 and the application will be placed before the next meeting of the Board by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
38	30th August 1938.	Sri S. V. Ganapathy, Mylapore, Madras, on behalf of the Madras Fertilizers and Chemicals, Limited, proposed to be floated.	Contribution to the capital of the company by way of shares of Rs. 2 lakhs and supply of electric energy at concessional rates.	For manufacture of fertilizers such as ammonium sulphate, etc.	..	..	The usual notice inviting objections to the grant of aid was published and in response to this notice, the Madras Chamber of Commerce sent in its objection and its supplementary objection was received only three days ago. The objections will be heard by the Director and the application placed before the next meeting of the Board of Industries.
39	5th September 1938.	Sri Nalamveetil Kunhiraman, Pallikunnu P.O., North Malabar.	1,500	For handloom weaving industry.	..	..	The application was rejected as it was considered desirable to eliminate middlemen.—G.O. No. 461, Development, dated 23rd February 1939.
40	8th September 1938.	The Andra Scientific Company, Limited, Madras. Proprietor of the Managing Agency Sri A. R. Murthi.	Rs. 50,000 subscription of shares or in the alternative a loan of Rs. 50,000.	For the manufacture of scientific instruments, *apparatus, etc.,* in their factory at Masulipatam.	..	..	The application was considered by the Board of Industries at its meeting held on 30th January 1939 when certain further information was called for by the Board. This is being collected by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
41	10th September 1938.	The India Gold Prospecting and Mining Syndicate, Limited, Madras. Managing *Agent* Narayanadas Girdardas.	Rs. 1 lakh subscription of shares and debenture loan of Rs. 3 lakhs.	For gold mining industry in the Kuppam Zamindari.	..	..	The usual notice inviting objections was published and objections heard in December 1938. The remarks of the company on the objections were received *only a few days ago.* The application will be placed before the next meeting of the Board by Director of Industries and Commerce.
42	13th September 1938.	The West Coast Canneries, Limited (proposed to be formed). Managing Agents The Kalyanpur Sugar Mills, Limited, South Kanara. President of the Board of Directors Sri A. Srinivas Pai, Kasaragod	Subscription of 10 per cent of shares, viz., Rs. 50,000 and grant of poramboke lands.	For starting a fruit and vegetable canning and preserving factory.		..	As the scheme was on too ambitious a scale the Board expressed the opinion that it would be prepared to consider an application on a more modest scale. Orders were issued accordingly in G.O. No. 460, Development, dated 23rd February 1939.

Applications for State aid received during 1938—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			RS.				
43	21st September 1938.	Sri V. S. R. Ayyangar, Madras.	1,000	Ivory carving and allied works.	..	..	The application was rejected as the applicant appears to be a native of Travancore State.—G.O. No. 517, Development, dated 3rd March 1939.
44	22nd September 1938.	Sri A. Dharmaraju, Vizagapatam.	1,000	For the manufacture of brass sign boards, electric fittings, etc.	..	Rs. 1,000 payable in 6 equal annual instalments at 5 per cent interest.—G.O. No. 462, Development, dated 23rd February 1939.	....
45	29th September 1938.	Sri M. Ratnam, Vepery, Madras.	2,000	For tin printing, celluloid novelties, photo-etores, etc.	..	Rs. 1,000 payable in 10 instalments at 5 per cent interest.—G.O. No. 456, Development, dated 23rd February 1939.	....
46	7th October 1938.	Sri Doddaghata Hanumantha Rao, Doddaghata, Anantapur district.	4,000	For the preparation of jaggery from date juice.	..	..	The Collector's report on the valuation of the security and Assistant Industrial Engineer's report are awaited. They were last reminded on 11th January 1939 by Director of Industries and Commerce.
47	Do.	Messrs. K. V. Ratnam & Bros., Rajahmundry, on behalf of "Ratnam Pens, Ltd.", a company proposed to be formed. Proprietors Sri K. Venkataratnam and	Subscription of shares for Rs. 5,000.	Manufacture of fountain pens.	..	..	The details of the proposal are awaited from the applicant, who were last addressed on 19th January 1939, by the Director of Industries and Commerce.

48	8th October 1938.	The Grama Kaithozhil Abivirthi Sangam, Ltd., Tittagudi. Proprietor of the Managing Agency, Sri T. V. Krishnamoorthi Sastri.	750	Reviving cottage industries such as hand weaving, paddy husking, etc.	..	..	The reports from the Collector and the Principal, Government Textile Institute, were received on 17th January 1939 and the application will be placed before the next meeting of the Board by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
49	Do.	Messrs. D. Raja Mawnay & Co., Ltd. Proprietors, The Madras Chemical Industries, Madras, Managing Director, Mr. D. R. Mawnay.	50,000	For the manufacture of pharmaceutical products.	..	..	The application was considered by the Board of Industries at its meeting held on 30th January 1939 when the Board desired to have the latest audit report of the company, etc., and the information has been called for.
50	11th October 1938.	Sri N. M. Rama Raju, Theni, on behalf of "The N. K. R. Anti-Septic Dressings Co., Ltd.," proposed to be formed.	Subscription of shares of the value of Rs. 10,000.	For the manufacture of sterilized surgical cotton wadding.	..	..	The application is under the consideration of Government.
51	4th November 1938.	Sri R. Shanmugha Mudaliyar, Tirubuvanam, Tanjore district.	2,000	For silk handloom weaving.	..	..	The application was rejected as the security was inadequate. G.O. No. 525, Development, dated 3rd March 1939.
52	Do.	Sri K. Kandaswami Mudaliyar, Tirubuvanam, Tanjore district.	2,000	Do.	..	..	Do.
53	10th November 1938.	Sri Mannathkandy Kumaran, Calicut.	5,000	For handloom weaving and oil milling industry.	..	..	The reports from the Collector and the departmental officers are awaited. They were last reminded on 7th February 1939 by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
54	12th November 1938.	The Radio Crafters, 20, Second Line Beach, Madras, on behalf of a limited company which is proposed to be floated. Proprietor Sri Avadiappa Chettiyar.	Subscription of 10 per cent of shares, viz., Rs. 10,000.	For the manufacture of Radios.	..	..	After consulting the Radio Engineer, Provincial Broadcasting, the applicants were addressed for information on 21st December 1938 and reminded on 26th January 1939. Their reply is awaited by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
55	17th November 1938.	Avanna Pump Corporation, 20, Second Line Beach, Madras. Proprietor Sri Avadiappa Chettiyar.	Subscription of 20 per cent of shares, viz., Rs. 20,000.	For the manufacture of water pumps.	..	..	The applicants have not yet replied to Director of Industries and Commerce letter, dated 23rd November 1938, and to the two subsequent reminders.

Applications for State aid received during 1938—cont.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
			Rs.				
56	20th December 1938.	Sri Bhusetty Subbayya, Kancherapalem, Vizagapatam.	500	For preparing fine mortar by ghani.	..	..	The report of the Collector who was addressed on 24th December 1938 is awaited. He is reminded by the Director of Industries and Commerce.

STATEMENT IV.

Applications for State aid received during 1939.

Serial number.	Date of receipt of application.	Name and address of the applicant.	Amount of aid applied for.	Purpose of aid.	Amount of aid sanctioned.	Date of disbursement.	Remarks.
1	7th January 1939.	Messrs. Narasimham & Co., Ltd., Madras. Managing Director Sri G. *Narasimham*.	50,000	For the manufacture of inks.	..	..	The Collector's report has just been received. The application will be placed before the next meeting of the Board by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
2	12th January 1939.	E. S. Mohammed Ebrahim Sahib, Tinnevelly.	1,000	For kora mat manufacture.	..	..	The applicant's reply as to the name of the surety is awaited by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
3	23rd January 1939.	The Andhra Chemical Corporation, Ltd. (proposed to be formed), Tanuku, West Godavari. Managing Director Sri J. P. Sastri.	(1) 10 per cent subscription of issued capital, viz., Rs. 30,000. (2) Drawal of 50,000 gallons of water free of cost from the Nidadavole Main channel. (3) Extraction of 3,000 tons of wood fuel per annum from East and West Godavari forests free of cost.	For the manufacture of potassium salts from the ash of gingelly plant and of plantain tree.	..	..	The Superintendent, Kerala Soap Institute, has been consulted and his report is awaited by *the Director of Industries* and Commerce.

4	23rd January 1939.	Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar, Hyderabad, *Deccan.*	(1) Rs. 3 lakhs (loan or overdraft). (2) Grant of water from Mettur project. (3) Electric energy at cheap rate.	For developing the Chetti Chavadi Mines (in Salem district—magnesite deposit) and manufacture of magnesium by products.	..	..	The applicant was addressed for further information on 28th January 1939 by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
5	Do.	The Metal Industries, Ltd., Shoranur. Managing Directors Rao Sahib V. K. Menon and Sri E. Velappa Nair.	6,000	For developing their industry.	..	..	The application will be placed before the next meeting of the Board by the Director of Industries and Commerce.
6	8th February 1939.	Sri K. P. Subbiah Pillai, Tinnevelly.	2,000	For the manufacture of carbon paper.	..	..	....

NOTE.—A great deal of work is involved in the final disposals of these applications. The need for action at several intermediate stages of the life of an application explains the long interval of time that elapses between the receipt of an application and its final disposal.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 293 asked by Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 779 supra.]

Dharmapuri Taluk.

Serial number and names of the villages in the proximity of the reserved forests.

1 Pikkili.
2 Asalli.
3 Vallur.
4 Nallappanayakampatti.
5 Biliyanur Agraharam.
6 Settipalli.
7 Pennagaram.
8 Manneri.
9 Periyur.
10 Rangapuram.
11 Kuthappadi.
12 Tirumalavadi.
13 Budapatti.
14 Neruppur.
15 Jakkampatti.
16 Papparappatti.
17 Kottur.
18 Belrampatti.
19 Pethampatti.
20 Kallipuram.
21 Chennappanallur.
22 Ulagampatti.
23 Marandahalli.
24 Uttamalai.
25 Parvathampatti.
26 Bellathi.
27 Matan.
28 Chillakarampatti.
29 Vannathipatti.
30 Segalrapatti.
31 Kunampalayam.
32 Palakoddu.
33 Sittakampatti.
34 Nakkanur.
35 Pikkalanayakampatti.
36 Busettipalli.
37 Buthipatti.
38 Kettiampatti.
39 Kottaiyur.
40 Orimalai.
41 Dasagoundanur.
42 Agraharam.
43 Yenamalamandai.
44 Valayalpatti.

Serial number and names of the villages in the proximity of the reserved forests.

45 Goourizettipatti.
46 Thattansandiram.
47 Noganur.
48 Karagur.
49 Panakolam.
50 Holapuram.
51 Kotturmalai.
52 Kondalumarampatti.
53 Gollakota.
54 Manyapatti.
55 Kottumarampatti.
56 Thoppur Kanigarahalli.
57 Budanahalli.
58 Yelagiri.
59 Liligam.
60 Madimangalam.
61 Nallampalli.
62 Adamankottah.
63 Swadi.
64 Balajangamanahalli.
65 Bagalahalli.
66 Palayam.
67 Dokkubadanahalli.
68 Kammampatti.
69 Maniyatahalli.
70 Arakasanahalli.
71 Summampalli.
72 Perumbalai.
73 Glandahahalli.
74 Bolanahalli.
75 Kalapambadi.
76 Kukutamaradahalli.
77 Satyanadapuram.
78 Songanur.
79 Payayalamari.
80 Kodihalli.
81 Ajjanahalli.
82 Parvatahalli.
83 Sunjalanatham.
84 Nagamarai.
85 Donnakuttahalli.
86 Sholapadi.
87 Baddirahalli.
88 Manjarahalli.

Harur taluk.

1 Thottampatti.
2 Namhipatti.
3 Kolagampatti.
4 Petachampatti.
5 Mettupatti.
6 Varunathiratham.
7 Nochannampatti (Kolagampatti).
8 Kalladipatti.
9 Achalavadi.
10 Kudumuyampatti.
11 Kiraipatti.
12 Kilaipatti.
13 Pudur (Egur).
14 Tadanvalasai.
15 Vellamadurai.
16 Harur.
17 Maveripatti (Harur).
18 Eluppudayanpatti.

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Serial number and names of the villages in the proximity of the reserved forests.

Harur taluk—cont.

Pudur.
20 Veppampatti.
21 Mambadi.
22 Ittyampatti.
23 Tadampatti.
24 Ponneri.
25 Kamalampatti.
26 Konampatti.
27 Jangalavadi.
28 Vengujampatti (Ponneri).
29 Virappanayakampatti.
30 Qudalur.
31 Valaduppu.
32 Karakavundanpatti.
33 Kilanur.
34 Melanur.
35 Vadapatti Periya.
36 Sinnappannimadugu.
37 Kottanampatti.
38 Puvampatti (Poyyapatti).
39 Tambal.
40 Vedkattumadugu.
41 Kattaivadichampatti.
42 Poyyapatti.
43 Thirthamalai.
44 Andiyur (Mondukuli).
45 Mondukuli.
46 Alambadi.
47 Mandikolampatti.
48 Periyapatti.
49 Tampadi.
50 Vadapatti (Periyapatti).
51 Sendrayampatti.
52 Sikkalur.
53 Naripalli.
54 Birnayakanpatti.
55 Kathiripatti.
56 Sengandipatti.
57 Kottapatti.
58 Andipatti.
59 Suranathan.
60 Tekkanampatti.
61 Avalur.
62 Selambai.
63 Kambalai.
64 Karapadi.
65 Karapadi.
66 Suriyakadai.
67 Chitteri.
68 Chitlingi.
69 Malathangi.
70 Pattukanampatti.
71 Alamelupuram.
72 A. Palipatti.
73 Mukkereddipatti.
74 Papambadi.
75 Kokarapatti.
76 Malagapadi.
77 Puludiyur.
78 Sinnakuppam.
79 Devarajapalayam.
80 Jammanahalli.

Serial number and names of the villages in the proximity of the reserved forests.

81 Parayapatti (Puludiyur).
82 Naranapuram.
83 Pudupatti (Papambadi).
84 Kavundampatti.
85 Tadampatti (Papambadi).
86 Irulapatti.
87 Adikarapatti.
88 Erumayampatti.
89 Papireddipatti.
90 Kolemakannur.
91 Venkatasamudram.
92 Molayanur.
93 Devarajapalayam (Bairnatham).
94 Bothakad.
95 Bairnatham.
96 Ajjampatti.
97 Vairanur.
98 B. Pallipatti.
99 Bommidi.
100 Mallapuram.
101 Pandarasettipatti.
102 Oddapatti.
103 Pilparuthi.
104 Kumbarahalli.
105 Gangalahalli.
106 Mottankurichi.
107 Kadireddipatti.
108 Ragadahalli.
109 Sungarahalli.
110 Srirarahalli.
111 Hanumimahalli.
112 Venkatathirihalli.
113 Kurumbarahalli.
114 Chintlapadi.
115 Tinnehalli.
116 Peddasamudram.
117 Ram nahalli.
118 Balasamudram.
119 Obilinayakanhalli.
120 Mekalanayakanhalli.
121 Tenkarakottai.
122 Gopalapuram.
123 Alapuram.
124 Annamalahalli.
125 Menasi.
126 Budanatham.
127 Kundalamadugu.
128 Kadiripuram.
129 Vellalapatti.
130 Settapalayam.
131 Ammapalayam.
132 Kullampatti.
133 Velanur.
134 Thathampatti.
135 Kombur.
136 Chinna Manjavadi
137 Manjavadi.
138 Nadupatti.
139 Kallathupatti.
140 Nonanganur.
141 Elanatham Kuttapatti.
142 Mangadai.

[27th March 1939

APPENDIX IV.

Vide answer to unstarred question No. 294 asked by Sri R. Maruthai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 780 supra.]

Sri Ranganathaswami Dharma Kainkarya Lottery Sabha, Srirangam.

I. Turn of the lottery drawn 4th September 1927—

Committee—Sir T. Desikachariar, *Kt.*, (President) and six others.

	RS.	A.	P.
Collections—			
Gross collection	66,227	8	0
Working expenses	6,227	8	0
To prize winners	30,000	0	0
Net proceeds to temple	30,000	0	0

II. Turn of the lottery drawn, 7th January 1929—

Committee—Sir T. Desikachariar, *Kt.* (President) and fourteen others.

	RS.	A.	P.
Collections –			
Gross collection	1,28,305	9	2
Working expenses	8,305	9	2
To prize winners	60,000	0	0
Net proceeds to temple	60,000	0	0

III. Turn of the lottery drawn, 3rd April 1931—

Committee—Sir T. Desikachariar, *Kt.* (President) and seven others.

	RS.	A.	P.
Collections—			
Gross collection	1,22,702	1	9
Working expenses	22,702	1	9
To prize winners	45,000	0	0
Net proceeds to temple	55,000	0	0

IV. Turn of the lottery drawn, 1st September 1933—

Committee—Sir T. Desikachariar, *Kt.* (President) and six others.

	RS.	A.	P.
Collections—			
Gross collection	43,551	3	3
Working expenses	6,666	3	3
To prize winners	17,117	0	0
Net proceeds to temple	19,768	0	0

V. Turn of the lottery drawn, 20th February 1936—

Committee—Sir T. Desikachariar, *Kt.* (President) and eight others.

	RS.	A.	P.
Gross collection	34,159	10	0
Working expenses	4,159	10	0
To prize winners	12,500	0	0
Net proceeds to temple	17,500	0	0

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Extract of letter Ref. No. 111/48/Supr. of 19, dated the 14th February 1939, from the Executive Officer, Sri Ranganathaswami, etc., Devasthanam, Srirangam.

* * * *

The net proceeds from the first two lotteries were invested in the acquisition of wet lands of about 75 acres in extent yielding about 1,500 kalams of paddy annually for the use of the Devasthanam, while the net proceeds of the third lottery were utilized for the renovation of portions of the premises of the Devasthanam. The net proceeds of the fourth and fifth lotteries were utilized for the renovation of major portion of Sri Nachiar Temple at Woriur—sub-temple of this Devasthanam.

* * * *

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 297 asked by Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 781 supra.]

Statement of Civil Appeals and Original Petitions pending on 1st January 1939 in the District Court of Tinnevelly.

Pending.	Number of regular appeals from the decision of				Number of Civil Miscellaneous Appeals from the decision of				Number of original petitions.
	Sub-Judges.	District Munsifs.	Revenue Courts.	Total.	Sub-Judges.	District Munsifs.	Revenue Courts.	Total.	
For over six months.	9	4	1	14	12	4	..	16	14
For more than one year.	22	..	36	58	21	1	..	22	14
For more than two years.	12	..	7	19	..	..	..	..	..
For more than three years.	5	..	..	5	2	..	..	2	5

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 298 asked by Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 782 supra.]

I

Statement showing the names of districts in which the offices of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor have been bifurcated and are held by different persons

(1) Chingleput.
(2) Ramnad.
(3) Salem.
(4) Trichinopoly.
(5) East Tanjore.
(6) Tinnevelly.
(7) North Malabar.
(8) Vizagapatam.
(9) Coimbatore.
(10) South Arcot.

II

Statement showing the average monthly remuneration of Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors based on the figures for three months.

	Government Pleader.	Public Prosecutor.
	RS.	RS.
(1) Chingleput	147	338
(2) Ramnad	53	790
(3) Salem	247	910
(4) Trichinopoly	100	723
(5) East Tanjore	58	435
(6) Tinnevelly	70	1,040
(7) Vizagapatam	316	326
(8) Coimbatore	70	758
(9) South Arcot	62	348
(10) North Malabar	*69	*119

* Based on two months' figures.

27th March 1939]

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 301 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 783 supra.]

Statement showing the number of boys of school-age, the number of boys of school-age under instruction and not under instruction in the various municipalities where compulsion was in force during 1937–38.

Serial number and name of the municipality.	Number of boys of school-age.	Number of boys of school-age.		Remarks.
		Under instruction.	Not under instruction.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 Vizagapatam	2,631	2,331	300	(1936–37 figures) compulsion was enforced in some wards.
2 Ellore	3,485	3,308	177	
3 Rajahmundry	4,276	3,451	825	
4 Masulipatam	3,926	3,314	612	(1936–37 figures.)
5 Hospet	1,615	974	641	Do.
6 Proddatur	2,029	1,213	816	Do.
7 Hindupur	1,463	1,172	291	
8 Nellore	3,202	2,778	424	
9 Madras	39,507	33,983	5,524	
10 Chingleput	1,097	1,002	95	
11 Conjeeveram	3,834	3,076	758	
12 Vellore	4,527	3,778	749	
13 Kumbakonam	4,139	3,665	474	
14 Negapatam	3,362	2,854	508	
15 Mayavaram	1,947	1,896	51	
16 Madura	5,045	4,703	342	(Compulsion was enforced in some wards.)
17 Dindigul	3,106	2,855	251	
18 Virudunagar	2,401	2,225	176	
19 Erode	2,787	2,556	231	
20 Coimbatore	7,777	5,931	1,846	
21 Tiruppur	2,071	1,646	425	
22 Tirunelveli	3,769	2,860	909	
23 Cochin—Mappilla	407	369	38	(1936–37 figures.)
Cochin (Non-Mappilla)	1,339	1,298	41	
24 Calicut (Mappilla)	2,782	2,566	216	(1936–37 figures.)
Calicut (Non-Mappilla)	5,037	4,884	153	
25 Tellicherry (Mappilla)	1,029	980	49	
Tellicherry (Non-Mappilla)	1,455	1,413	42	
26 Bezwada	4,518	3,921	597	(1936–37 figures.)
27 Salem	662	603	59	(Only in four wards.)

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APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 302 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 783 supra.]

Names of municipalities where compulsion has been introduced and the number of Aided Elementary Schools in them and the amount of grant paid.

Number and names of municipalities.	Number of aided elementary schools for		Total grant paid during 1937-38.
	Boys.	Girls.	RS.
1 Vizagapatam	9	6	12,468
2 Ellore	34	6	8,828
3 Rajahmundry	29	10	6,175
4 Masulipatam	24	7	1,039
5 Hospet	5	..	218
6 Proddatur	7	..	1,305
7 Hindupur	4	1	1,350
8 Nellore	22	4	34,789
9 Madras	142	47	1,50,624
10 Chingleput	4	4	7,759
11 Conjeeveram	7	4	8,398
12 Vellore	24	6	18,314
13 Kumbakonam	16	4	10,913
14 Negapatam	7	4	5 816
15 Mayavaram	6	4	7,138
16 Madura	26	12	28,808
17 Dindigul	9	6	14,202
18 Virudunagar	9	4	1,344
19 Erode	7	1	8,714
20 Coimbatore	18	14	31,546
21 Tiruppur	2	..	1,312
22 Tirunelveli	23	9	21,468
23 Cochin	3	1	3,948
24 Calicut	22	6	22,989
25 Tellicherry	9	9	13,584
26 Bezwada	37	5	2,155
27 Salem	29	9	26,245
28 Cocanada	25	2	7,054

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 314 asked by Sri K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 790 supra.]

Statement showing the number of books purchased for the use of Libraries attached to Central Jails in the year 1938–39.

Name of the jail.	Number of books purchased.
Central Jail, Rajahmundry	Nil.
Do. Vellore	242
Do. Trichinopoly	132
Do. Coimbatore	27
The Penitentiary, Madras	Nil.
Central Jail, Cannanore	54
Do. Salem	Nil.
Do. Bellary	154
Do. Vizagapatam	17

APPENDIX A.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 317 asked by Sri Grandhi Venkata Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1939, page 791 supra.]

Statement showing the amounts borrowed from 1921–22 distributed over the objects on which the loan moneys were spent.

Year.	Irrigation works. Cauvery-Mettur Project.	Irrigation Other works.	Electric schemes.	Commercial concerns.	Civil works.	Loans and advances by Provincial Government to local bodies, agriculturists, etc.	Expenditure on revenue account.	Unutilized balance of loan.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
	RS. LAKHS.	RS LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
I. Loans from the Provincial Loans Fund of the Government of India.									
1921–22	..	7·19	..	..	11·30	46·93	49·44	..	114·86
1922–23	..	6·43	..	..	5·77	33·78	17·27	2·93	66·18
1923–24	..	10·22	..	0·33	5·84	38·29	9·50	— 2·93	61·25
1924–25	..	9·71	..	11·36	— 2·88	66·25	29·43	16·13	130·00
1925–26	8·44	19·32	..	3·24	9·04	64·70	..	— 16·13	88·61
1926–27	96·27	24·39	10·00	..	..	71·10	..	..	201·76
1927–28	87·39	22·31	— 4·00	..	..	54·30	..	..	160·00
1928–29	77·85	13·74	— 2·34	..	..	48·60	..	..	137·85
1929–30	96·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96·00
1930–31	100·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100·00
1931–32	47·00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47·00
1932–33	100·38	6·58	33·27	..	..	10·00	..	..	150·23
1933–34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1934–35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1935–36	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1936–37	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
II. Open market borrowings.									
1937–38	..	5·17	102·73	..	..	56·13	..	..	164·03
1938–39	..	(a)	(a)	..	..	(a)	..	..	151·29

(a) The distribution will be made after the close of the year.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 28th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) *in the Chair.*

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Appointment of Telugu typists in the Copyists' establishment and Registration offices.

* 1072 *Q.*—SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Andhra Provincial Telugu Typists' Association has submitted any memorial to the Government to issue orders making it obligatory to have certified copies of Telugu matter prepared on a Telugu typewriter instead of in manuscript, just as in the case of English matter;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) be in the affirmative, what action, if any, the Government have been pleased to take in the matter;

(*c*) whether the Government have considered any proposal to introduce the posts of Telugu typists in such branches as Copyists' establishment and Registration offices where there is much Telugu writing; and

(*d*) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) *to* (*d*) The suggestion of the Association would involve the purchase of Telugu typewriters in various offices and the displacement of copyists. No action was taken on the memorial beyond sending a copy of it to the High Court for such action as it considered necessary."

Remodelling of canals in the West Godavari district.

* 1073 *Q.*—SRI G. VENKANNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long it is since remodelling canals began in the West Godavari district;

(*b*) what the canals are for which estimates have been finished and which are ready for work;

(*c*) when the work will be begun in these cases; and

(*d*) in what time the pipe No. 80 on the left side of the Junnur canal will be dug into a branch canal?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) Since ten years ago.

" (b) & (c) Quarterly progress reports of the investigation and preparation of projects for remodelling of channels and drains in the Godavari Western Delta are being received by Government. Collection of statistics from these reports regarding the progress made during the ten years will involve much time and labour and Government do not consider it worth while to collect the information.

" (d) Government have no information."

Supply of electricity for agricultural operations.

* 1074 Q.—SRI V. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what exactly the processes in agriculture are for which Government are now supplying electricity in the Province;

(b) the extent of land newly brought under cultivation as a result of the introduction of electricity;

(c) the extent of land already under cultivation, which is benefited by this electric power supplied by the Government; and

(d) what the return to Government is in the case of lands mentioned in clauses (b) and (c) respectively?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) Power is supplied for pumping water for agricultural purposes.

" (b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information."

Assignment of lands in reserve forests to Harijans.

* 1075 Q.—SRI D. GOVINDA DOSS: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of land belonging to the reserve forests in Adoni taluk;

(b) how long it has been managed by the Forest department;

(c) whether the Government are receiving statements of income and expenditure in respect of these lands;

(d) the expenditure incurred by Government on establishment and other charges;

(e) the income from the removal of grass and other produce and cutting of trees for the last three years;

(f) the income from fines levied and compounding fees for the last three years;

(g) whether it is a fact that some land belonging to the reserve forest in Kuppagal village in Adoni taluk was given to some Christians on condition that they would improve the growth of trees; and

(h) whether the Government intend to give the land in other areas to Harijans also on similar terms?

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THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a) 22,357 acres both under departmental and panchayat management.

"(b) The Kupgal forest and its addition were constituted as reserve forests in 1895 and 1897 and have since then been under departmental control. The other forests declared reserved forests between 1890 and 1896 are managed by panchayats.

"(c) Figures of income and expenditure in respect of the Kupgal forest and its addition are available with the Forest Department.

"(d) About Rs. 340 per year.

"(e) Rs. 295, 568 and 700 in 1935–36, 1936–37 and 1937–38.

"(f) Rs. 115, 235 and 96 in 1935–36, 1936–37 and 1937–38.

"(g) A report has been called for.

"(h) If suitable areas are available and applications are made to the District Forest Officer they will be considered by him."

Particulars regarding the operation of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act.

* 1076 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of agriculturist debtors who have so far completely discharged their debts after the same were scaled down under the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act;

(b) the proportion of such debtors to the full number of debtors whose debts have been scaled down; and

(c) the number of cases, if any, in which the properties of debtors have been or are being brought to sale in courts for realization of scaled-down debts?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(a), (b) & (c) During the period of eleven months ending with January 1939, 92,502 applications under the Act were received, of which 72,494 applications were disposed of scaling down claims to the approximate total extent of Rs. 2 crores and 6 lakhs to Rs. 1 crore and 10 lakhs. The Government have no information as to number of debtors or as to clause (c)."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the necessary information?"

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"If it is for a district, the Government will call for the information; but if it is for the whole Province, it will be impossible."

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Reasons, if any, for the recent reorganization of the Fisheries Department.

* 1077 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state the reasons that made the Government reorganize the Department of Fisheries recently?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Reorganization was undertaken with a view to effecting economies in expenditure, in the administration of the Fisheries Department."

Deforestation of Kudiraimoli Theri Reserve Forest and assignment of land therein for cultivation.

* 1078 *Q.*—SRI A. R. A. S. DURAISWAMI NADAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received petitions from the villagers of Trichendur taluk, Tinnevelly district, praying for deforestation of Kudiraimoli Theri Reserve Forest and assignment of land for cultivation and village common land;

(*b*) what the area of the Theri is;

(*c*) whether the Government get any annual net income from the reserve forest; if not, what the annual cost to the Government by way of maintenance is; and

(*d*) whether the land is fit for cultivation?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) About 11,000 acres.

"(*c*) & (*d*) A report has been called for. The land is being reclaimed by planting palmyra and ashew trees and some fuel species."

Nature of help given to mills engaged in the manufacture of steel and articles made thereof.

* 1079 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any mills in this Province for manufacturing steel and steel articles;

(*b*) what the capital of each such mill is and where they are situated; and

(*c*) the nature of help, if any, given by the Government to each such mill?

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SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) & (b) There are no mills which manufacture steel in this Presidency. There are, however, two steel rolling mills. One is the Indian Steel Rolling Mills, Negapatam, with a paid-up capital of Rs. 18,73,220. This mill produces steel sections of flats, rounds and squares. The other mill is the Industrial Engineers and Merchants, Ltd., Bezwada, with a paid-up capital of Rs. 1,07,000. Round bars are manufactured by this mill.

" (c) No help in particular has been given."

SRI V. S. R. M. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Negapatam Mills referred to in the answer is flourishing well?"

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" I do not think it arises out of the question."

Alleged misappropriation of funds in the Kattumannarkoil Land Mortgage Bank.

* 1080 Q.—SRI R. PONNUSWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the alleged misappropriation of funds in the Kattumannarkoil Land Mortgage Bank to the extent of Rs. 8,000 and odd is true;

(b) if so, who is responsible for the loss of funds;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against those who are responsible for the alleged misappropriation;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Board of Directors was superseded; and

(e) what the proposal of the Government is with regard to the management of the Bank in future?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The ex-Secretary of the Bank.

" (c) Yes; the matter has been placed in the hands of the Police.

" (d) Yes.

" (e) A departmental Junior Inspector was appointed to manage the affairs of the bank from 5th January 1939. The question of appointing a small committee to assist the departmental Junior Inspector in dealing with loan applications and disbursement of loans is under the consideration of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies."

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Effect of the import of Burma rice on the price of country rice.

* 1081 *Q.*—Sri K. VENKATAPPAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of Burma rice imported into this Presidency within the last six months;

(*b*) the price of Burma rice as compared with the price of the country rice; and

(*c*) the extent of the fall in price of country rice consequent upon the imports of Burma rice?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" A statement [a] giving the information asked for is placed on the table of the House. The statement speaks for itself."

MIR AKRAM ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know whether representations have been made to the Imperial Government to stop the importation of rice from Burma? "

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" This Government have made the necessary representations and they are awaiting orders."

Sri K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know to what effect the representations were made? "

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" It cannot be disclosed."

Business transacted by the Land Mortgage Bank, Calicut, till 15th February 1939.

* 1082 *Q.*—Sri E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date on which the Calicut Land Mortgage Bank was started; and

(*b*) the number and the total amount of the loans disbursed by the bank till 15th February 1939?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (*a*) The bank commenced work on 19th July 1938.

" (*b*) No loan was disbursed till 15th February 1939."

Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur put a question in Malayalam.

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" Eighty-eight."

Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib Bahadur put a question in Malayalam.

Sri B. S. MURTI:—" Eighty-eight applications were received for a loan of Rs. 1,25,435."

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[a] Printed as appendix on page 974 infra.

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MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not the number of applications nor the amount that I wanted, Sir."

Reorganization of the Labour department.

* 1083 *Q.*—SRI E KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representations about four months ago for the reorganization of the Labour department; and

(*b*) if so, what they have done in the matter?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(*a*) A representation for the reorganization of the Labour Department in Malabar was received in December 1938.

"(*b*) The matter is under consideration."

Measures for the eradication of corruption in the Government Press.

* 1084 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU:— Will the Hon. the Minister for Administration Reports and Public Information be pleased to state what steps have been taken, or are contemplated with a view to eradicating corruption in the Government Press?

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—"The Government have no reason to believe that there is corruption in the Government Press."

Disposal of the materials of the abolished Branch Press at Ootacamund.

* 1085 *Q.*—SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Administration Reports and Public Information be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Branch Press at Ootacamund was abolished; and

(*b*) when and how the materials of the Press were disposed of and the total amount realized thereby?

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—"(*a*) With effect from 1st July 1938.

"(*b*) In June 1938, before the actual closure of the Press articles were disposed of as follows:—

(1) Plant and stores to the value of nearly Rs. 1,500 were transferred to the office of the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor to instal a small press there.

(2) A very large quantity of types, chases, galleys, etc., together with stores and stationery articles were transferred to the Central Press.

(3) The remaining plant and articles including printing machine, 2½ horse-power oil engine, cutting and ruling machines, etc., were sold for the best offer available on the spot. The net amount realized by sales was Rs. 4,470-9-0."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know what the original price of these articles is?"

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Proposal to transfer the management of Fisheries to Local Boards.

* 1086 *Q.*—SRI P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that many swamps, water-courses and other fisheries are sold in public auction or managed by the Revenue Department and the revenue derived therefrom is annually credited to the Local Boards concerned; and

(*b*) whether the Government will consider the desirability of completely transferring the management of Fisheries, just as in the case of Ferries, to the Local Boards concerned?

SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) The Government have considered the question and have decided that the Revenue Department should conduct the auction of leases of fishery rights in tanks and other water sources which 'vest' in local bodies. In the case of tanks which are 'owned' by local bodies the fishery rights are auctioned by the local bodies themselves."

Alleged misappropriation of funds in the Villivakkam Panchayat Board, Chingleput district.

* 1087 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that defalcations and misappropriations occurred in the Panchayat Board, Villivakkam, Chingleput district, during the administration of the ex-President, Sri A. Janakirama Reddiyar;

(*b*) if so, the amount involved;

(*c*) the dates of the defalcations and the date on which they came to light and what action was taken with regard to this so far; and

(*d*) whether any action, civil or criminal, has been launched against the person responsible and if not, the reason for the delay?

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SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) About Rs. 6,500.

" (c) The defalcations were brought to light in August 1938 when the accounts of the panchayat for 1937–38 were audited by the District Inspector of Local Fund Accounts. The panchayat has been superseded and placed under a special officer and a complaint preferred to the Police. The clerk of the panchayat responsible for the misappropriation is still absconding.

" (c) After the result of the criminal complaint is known the question of surcharge will be taken up."

Administration of the Villivakkam Panchayat Board under the Special Officer.

* 1088 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Panchayat Board, Villivakkam, Chingleput district, has been superseded and a Special Officer placed in charge;

(b) the qualifications of the Special Officer for the post;

(c) the date on which the Special Officer took charge and whether he has sent any report on the misappropriation in that Panchayat Board;

(d) whether, in view of the poor income of the Panchayat Board and the heavy amount misappropriated, the Panchayat Board is now unable to attend to its normal duties;

(e) whether the Government propose to issue special instructions to the Special Officer to see that the misappropriation and irregularities are attended to expeditiously;

(f) whether it is a fact that an additional clerk was posted to the Panchayat Board some months back temporarily to write up the accounts which were kept unwritten by the previous president, Sri A. Janakirama Reddiyar; and

(g) whether it is a fact that even after the writing up of such accounts the clerk is being continued; and if so, why?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The Special Officer holds the B.A. (Hons.) degree and has also passed F.L.

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"(c) The Special Officer took charge on 19th February 1939. Certain misappropriations were reported even before his taking charge. The Special Officer has been sending reports of misappropriations brought to light subsequent to the date he took charge.

"(d) It is reported that the Speial Officer is not able to spend the required amount on maintenance of roads and sanitation.

"(e) Necessary instructions have already been issued by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

"(f) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(g) The writing up of the accounts is nearing completion and the clerk will be relieved on 25th March 1939. I may add that the clerk has since been relieved."

Telugu typists for Local Boards.

* 1089 *Q.*—SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether any and if so, what local bodies have applied for the sanction of separate posts of Telugu typists; and

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether the Government have been pleased to sanction the same?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—"(a) Yes; the Vizagapatam, East Godavari and West Godavari District Boards and the Ellore Municipal Council applied for sanction to the creation of separate posts of Telugu typists.

"(b) The proposal in all these cases was not sanctioned, but it was stated that there was no objection to the creation of the post of a Telugu typist in lieu of an existing post of clerk."

SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know, Sir, why a separate post was not sanctioned?"

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The existing clerks were doing the work of this contemplated Telugu typist and therefore, the Government said that the Telugu typist would be sanctioned in lieu of one of the existing clerks."

SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"Are the Government aware that the existing typists are not well versed in Telugu typewriting and a separate Telugu typist is absolutely necessary in the opinion of the local boards concerned?"

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SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir. But the Government stated that the Telugu typist may be appointed in the place of one of the clerks who may be retrenched."

Abolition of the District Educational Council, West Godavari.

* 1090 *Q.*—SRI GRANDHI VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Educational Council, West Godavari district, was abolished;

(*b*) if so, when;

(*c*) what the reasons for such abolition are;

(*d*) whether before it was actually abolished any notice was given calling upon the council to give reasons or explanation why it should not be abolished;

(*e*) whether any nominations were made to the council, after the elected council was abolished;

(*f*) if so, how many;

(*g*) whether it is not against the policy of the present Government to make any nominations; and

(*h*) how long since the present nominated council has been functioning?

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"(*a*) & (*b*) In July 1938, the Government ordered that the elected and appointed members of the District Educational Council, West Godavari, should vacate their seats. The Council was not abolished.

"(*c*) The affairs of the Council were being mismanaged and the Council was not doing its duties satisfactorily.

"(*d*) There was no abolition of the Council; it was simply a question of reconstituting it under section 23 of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920; and there is no provision in this section directing that notice should be given to District Educational Councils before they are reconstituted.

"(*e*) & (*f*) Twelve members were appointed by Government.

"(*g*) As far as District Educational Councils are concerned, the answer is in the negative.

"(*h*) Appointments to the Council were gazetted on the 31st January 1939."

SRI D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know, Sir, whether the President, District Educational Council, West Godavari, has been elected President of the District Board, West Godavari?"

THE HON. SRI C. J. VARKEY:—"Government have no information, Sir."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*cont.*

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I allot two hours for this Demand."

* THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 19,08,300 *under Demand XXI—Industries.*'

"Sir, I would like to make a statement about the policy of Government in regard to industries in this Presidency. The policy of the Government of Madras is nothing more and nothing less than the policy of the Congress which has been quite clearly indicated in the famous Karachi resolution on fundamental rights. I will quote a few lines from that resolution which will make the position quite clear to this House:

'The encouragement of khadi and village industries has also long been the principal plank of the Congress programme. In regard to the larger industries protection should be given but the rights of the workers and producers of raw materials should be safeguarded and regard should be paid to the interests of village industries.'

"I want to make, Sir, the position quite clear, namely, that the first plank on which the industrial policy of the Government is based is the revival of village industries. It is realized, Sir, by one and all that India is a land of villages, and unless a subsidiary occupation is found for the villager, whatever may be the nature of the industries you may start, they will not help the villagers. Even if to-day industries on a large scale, big and key industries were established in our country it would only accommodate a crore of people, or at any rate a crore of families of this country. We have to realize the fact that there are six crores of families at present, and may be, by the next census, we will have a few more crores of families in our country which will be vitally affected. While therefore we think of establishing large industries it should be the duty of the Government to think in terms of revival and establishment anew of village industries which alone will give subsidiary occupation to the villagers. We have to improve the condition of the villager, and this can be done only by increasing his purchasing power. I say, and I want to make it quite clear to all so that there may be no doubt about it, that the first plank in the programme of Government and on which it stands to-day is the revival of village industries. We stand also for the organization of key industries and the maintenance of it by the State, if necessary. It is on account of this very purpose and on account of this very objective, early in the history of this Congress Government, the Ministers of Industries of all Congress Provinces have come to the conclusion that they must

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have a co-ordinated plan of action in the matter of establishment of industries in the country, and so, in last October, the Congress Ministers of Industries met together in Delhi under the Chairmanship of the President of the Indian National Congress. That meeting went into all these matters and they made the line of action to be taken quite clear in their resolution which is as follows:—

'This Conference of the Ministers of Industries is of the opinion that the problems of poverty and unemployment, of national defence and of the economic regeneration in general cannot be solved without industrialization. As a step towards such industrialization, a comprehensive scheme of national planning should be formulated. This scheme should provide for the development of heavy key industries, medium scale industries and cottage industries, keeping in view our national requirements, the resources of the country, as also the peculiar circumstances prevailing in the country.'

"It is expected, Sir, that as soon as the Planning Committee has finished its work, a Planning Commission representing Indian States and Provincial Governments will come into existence with experts in industries, scientists and members who are already in the Planning Committee. The object of this Commission will be to formulate schemes on the lines recommended by the Planning Committee, such as national economic planning, raw materials needed for national industries, method of organization of industry, whether it should be under complete State control or private enterprise, the method of financing industry and its management. It may also be relevant to say here that the Planning Committee is to-day sitting in Bombay consisting of important and prominent representatives of various interests and industries, scientists and economists and that they are expected to produce a report. They have issued a questionnaire to all the Governments and States which are taking part or are interested in industrial planning, and even the Government of India are expected to elaborately answer that questionnaire. I will only read a few lines from the statement made by the Planning Committee after its preliminary meeting which will clearly prove exactly where the Planning Committee bases its work:—

'The object of a comprehensive national planning is to improve the well-being of the community, principally by intensifying the economic development of the community concerned on an all-round basis, in an ordered, systematic manner, so as to observe a due proportion between the various forms of producing new wealth, its equitable distribution amongst the members of the community, and to secure such adjustment between the interests of producers and consumers, individuals and the community collectively, the present and succeeding generations, as to maintain a proper balance between these several interests.'

"Then they also add:—

'In view of the vastness of the problem, and the heavy handicaps imposed upon the Indian people by the existing constitution, the solution of the problem of national planning and development would naturally require more time than in another community where the power and authority of the people is not so narrowly circumscribed. But some clear objective like the one mentioned above, is necessary to measure the scale of achievement desired, and so to enable a concrete plan to be achieved

in a prescribed period in every direction being formulated with due correlation as between the various sections of the plan considered as a whole.'

"I feel, Sir, there is no use in having industries without considered ideas on the matter; there is no use starting big industries throughout the length and breadth of the country without ideas, whether those industries will prosper or not. Through the work of this Planning Committee and later on of the Planning Commission we will be in a position to say which industries should be started and, in which Province, which industries would be profitable and in which place; and that is why the Planning Commission is at work. In fact, in other countries, they have a programme of action in the matter of industrialization. I am very glad to say at the instance of the Congress Working Committee, the Ministers of Industries in the different Provinces have agreed to go into the question; I expect the members of the Assembly will follow the proceedings of the Planning Committee, they will take the trouble of reading the questionnaire very carefully, ponder over it and also send their answers to the Planning Committee, so that that Committee may have the valuable advice of the legislators that we have in the various Provinces. I consider that when the Commission finishes its work it will be a sort of Board of Control of Industries in the future so that when industries grow, industrialists will know where a particular industry will be profitable to start; and also it will be an indication to the Government which industries they should take up and make them State industries.

"In this connexion I wish to refer to a few sentences from His Excellency the Viceroy's speech on the occasion of the opening of the last Industries Ministers' Conference on this subject:

'There is no doubt in my mind that conditions to-day in the world at large make it more necessary than ever before that India should attain a certain balance in her agricultural and industrial economy. The goal of self-sufficiency which is being pursued by many foreign countries is not one that is in my judgment suitable for India. But the falling off in the demand for India's raw products, which is one of its symptoms, imposes on us precisely, in the interests of the agricultural classes, the duty of making a fuller use of those raw products ourselves.'

"We also feel that the development of rural industries is absolutely necessary and unless they are developed it will not be of any great help to the rural population. The very justification for having this Planning Commission to work is proved by the following statement of the Trade Commissioner in his report on Conditions and Prospects of United Kingdom Trade in India, Department of Overseas Trade. A few sentences that I shall read will prove to us how necessary it is we should have a Planning Committee to work as early as possible and give us an industrial map for the development of our industries. Sir Thomas Ainscough states as follows:—

'This growing practice of the purchase, by Public Authorities, of Indian-made goods in preference to imported articles, even at some sacrifice

of price and quality, now prevails in most Local Governments, municipalities and other bodies. One of the first actions of the new autonomous Provincial Governments was to lay down that purchases by all officers under their control should be made in India if practicable. This nationalist spirit is unexceptionable from an Indian political point of view, provided that it does not result in a general lowering of standards and uneconomical purchases at the public expense. It deals a heavy blow at the overseas contractor, who has been accustomed to tender on equal terms with all competitors. It also stimulates the erection by him of small-scale, uneconomical works in the country. Its most patent result is the progressive decline in the formerly valuable trade in Government Stores.

'The contractions of the Indian market as an outlet for overseas manufactured goods on account of the rapidly mounting domestic production is an issue which must be squarely faced by United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters. During the past two years India has lost her pride of place as the greatest market in the world for United Kingdom goods and now ranks third, having been surpassed by the Union of South Africa and Australia. In my report for 1935-36 I sounded a note of warning that the serious limitation of the Indian market as an outlet for overseas exporters on account of the development of local secondary industries would be likely to present serious problems for United Kingdom export trade in the future.

'My conclusions hitherto have been that we must rely more and more in the future on the shipment to India of capital products, technical equipment and high grade specialities, thus aiding her own development with our experience and technique. It must be recognized, however, that even in the case of capital goods, a determined effort is now being made by Indian political leaders and politically-minded Industrialists imbued with the spirit of economic nationalism, in its most extreme form, to render the conntry so far as possible independent of imports of such items as motor vehicles many types, machinery, electrical plants and accessories, heavy chemicals and fertilizers, bicycles and sewing machines. The autonomous Governments in the Provinces are giving the lead in this direction.

'At a conference, convened by the Congress organization, of the Ministers of Industries in those provinces with Congress Governments held in Bombay in August 1938, a committee of expert Indian Technicians, engineers, chemists, economists, industrialists and geologists, to which foreign experts will be subsequently added was appointed known as the Planning Committee with the object of planning the further industrialisation of the country on a large scale.'

"You will understand, Sir, that the best answer to the 3-30 p.m. critics of the Planning Commission is the quotation from the Report of the Trade Commissioner who has become so nervous that India is trying to understand her position, and trying to understand her essential and necessary industries with a proper application and programme.

"I am also sorry, Sir, for what was said the other day—I do not wish to refer to it as the gentleman is not here—by Mr. Langley with regard to Sir M. Viswesvarayya and Sir Mirza Ismaiel calling the one a 'company promoter' and the other a 'visionary.' I may assure you, Sir, that he is not quite correct in his statement. Neither the one is a company promoter nor the other is a visionary. Both of them are the best statesmen and Sir M. Viswesvarayya is certainly an economist of a high order. He has given his views to various Indian States, to various Governments and various municipalities and district boards and they have certainly flourished well. If I were Mr. Langley, I would certainly withdraw the statement with regard to these gentlemen. I think my reference

to his great service to cottage industries and his national fame had led Mr. Langley to differ from me and that is why I had to reply so far as that matter is concerned.

"Coming to marketing of cottage industries, mere talk of establishing big industries will be a thing that will fail to produce any results, unless we make it certain that we are in a position to market the goods that are produced. Therefore, so early as the coming into office of this Government we realized the necessity for marketing facilities and to-day we are thinking in terms of establishing Museums-cum-Emporiums. The House may take it that that is what we are trying to do. What we were doing hitherto was to have industrial and agricultural exhibitions, to give an opportunity for the produce of the village industries and other industries to be exhibited in those exhibitions. But these exhibitions were yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly *tamashas* which were going on for a fortnight and were then closed. The idea of having Museums-cum-Emporiums-cum-Warehouses is to give every opportunity for the manufacturers of village industries and other industries to place their goods in the Museum-cum-Emporium-cum-Warehouse, so that whenever a consumer came to see and if he wanted to buy, he may be in a position to buy those goods immediately. It also affords an opportunity for the producer and the consumer to come together without the assistance of the middleman. At various places like Mangalore, Ellore, Guntur and other places we have established already museums. In some other places like Vellore, Tinnevelly, Rajahmundry, efforts are being made to put up buildings for these museums. I do hope that by the end of next year there will be Museums-cum-Emporiums in every place. I ask for the co-operation of the members of this House and the leaders of several districts to give effect to this idea of Museums-cum-Emporiums. You can be sure of the moral support that the Government can give and I am sure with that moral support you will be able to get material support of the districts and you will be in a position to establish these Museums-cum-Emporiums. You will be very glad to hear that very soon we are having a Provincial Museum-cum-Emporium and that Provincial Museum-cum-Emporium will be opened when next time you are all present in Madras for the Assembly session.

"Not only that, the State Aid to Industries Act has been in existence for some years past. During the regime of this Government, we have given State aid to great industrialists who wanted to start industries. Government grant these State aids on the recommendation of the Advisory Board on Industries.

"Not only that, we have decided to give loans to industries which help in the regeneration of old industries. We have thus helped eight or nine industries. On the other hand, I feel that grants to khadi and other village industries on a large scale should at least be an employment dole to the villagers who are prepared

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to work that scheme. I desire, however, to say that I am not afraid of critics who say that the Congress Government has done precious little in establishing industries. I would have no industries rather than have industries which will go to rack and ruin for want of a plan of action. We know from our experience of the past the fate of such industries. I am not afraid of critics who say that India must only be a supplier of raw materials and get her finished goods from elsewhere. Our policy with respect to industrialization has been more than justified. Indian capital is not shy; but because there is no plan or programme, because the industrialist is not sure what amount of general support he will get, industries are not prospering.

"I desire to repeat that co-ordination in all matters of industrial development is highly essential and in the building up of an industrial back-ground it is necessary that we should be more industrially self-contained.

"I also consider that a more balanced internal economy as between manufacturing industries and the primary production of agricultural commodities is desirable.

"Speaking of industries, Sir, it is also necessary that I should say something about the labour policy of the Government, because in an industry all that can be said of labour and capital is that they are two partners. I am almost inclined to say that labour is a covenant partner, because, if a capitalist puts his capital without the co-operation of labour he will not be able to get on. At least, I consider that they are partners in industry and therefore, in dealing with industrial matters I must also say something with regard to the policy of the Government regarding labour. No doubt, there may be a feeling among the industrialists that the Government are biassed in their outlook towards labour. And equally there may be a feeling on the part of the workers that we are biassed towards industrialists. But, I am bound to deny these charges. I stand for industry which is both labour and capital. I am for adjustment of their difficulties and differences as between them, so that the industry may thrive to the mutual advantage of both. I am quite plain. But, I am thinking in terms of development of India's industries on a large scale so that the workers can find more employment. I am thinking in terms of housing for industrial workers. I am thinking in terms of unemployment benefits during times of industrial unemployment. I am thinking in terms of relieving industrial workers from Kabuli money-lenders. I am thinking in terms of greater security of service for workers. I am thinking in terms of saving workers from the demon of drink and we are considering immediate measures, even apart from the complete Prohibition we may later have. I am thinking in terms of better wage conditions for workers. These and even more can be done so long as there is harmony between the workers and the employers.

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" The labour policy of the Madras Government was made clear in the communiqué of October 1937. They stand for encouragement of trade unions. The workers should take the opportunity to organize trade unions on a sound basis. The Government made it clear that they did not want to interfere with the present rights of the employers and the workers. They made it clear that if there were unorganized workers in an industry and if the unorganized workers were afraid to meet their employers in order to represent their grievances and if they approached the Government, the Government would help such unorganized workers to put their point of view before the employer. All these things were made quite clear. Further we made it quite clear that internal settlement of disputes is preferable to external settlement of disputes. It is due to the policy that we are not hasty in appointing courts to settle the disputes.

" Recently the Employers' Federation met me in a deputation and they complained that the Madras Government was only interfering or intervening in disputes when the dispute had taken the position of a real dispute, namely, the declaration of a strike. I am bound to say that it is not a correct statement of the fact. I can assure the Employers' Federation that this Government is anxious, and at every stage trying, to intervene if necessary. The Employers' Federation felt that if we had conciliators here, and there and everywhere, they will study the conditions of the workers and intervene at a moment when there is a likelihood of a dispute or difference between the workers and employers. I can assure them, even at the present moment practically District Magistrates in all districts are performing the functions of conciliators whenever they are asked to do so. On the other hand the Labour Commissioner at Madras is in his turn active and trying to intervene the moment a dispute is threatened. But, however, I would like to assure the Employers' Federation that we are trying and making an experiment in Coimbatore and that very soon we are going to have a conciliator, an officer of the Government, who will devote all his time and attention to trade disputes and try to intervene whenever there is a likelihood of any discontent amongst the workers. I may however say that I have my own feelings about conciliators. If the conciliators are not proper persons they may become the cause of the dispute rather than being an instrument for settling the dispute. It is my fear. In order to respect the views of the Employers' Federation, we are trying to have a conciliator appointed in Coimbatore and I do hope that my fears will not be justified and their hopes will be realized.

3-45 p.m. " I must also make it perfectly clear that the time may certainly come when we have to think in terms of some Labour legislation. There was a complaint on the part of the workers' leaders that we have been apathetic in the matter of introducing Labour legislation. The charge, I must say, has some foundation, but, at the same time, I must make it perfectly clear that

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we have not done it deliberately, intentionally or advisedly. We wanted that conventions should be formed, traditions established and that after an understanding of the difficulties of the workers and the employers we should have legislation generally satisfactory, which will in practice, be useful to the industry as a whole. I have stated exactly my views of the matter just now and we do hope to produce a moderate piece of legislation on the matters that I have enumerated just a few minutes ago. I can assure both the employers' representatives and the workers' representatives that when these Bills are read the Government will be pleased to know their views on the matter.

"One thing, however, must be made clear that the workers have opportunities to organize their unions. My fear is that they must utilize their opportunities to have good unions based on sound trade union lines. I may assure them that if they do so, neither stay-in-strikes nor sitting strikes nor standing strikes nor lying-across-the-road strikes will be necessary. I may assure them of this from the little experience that I have got. They can have strikes erect. Most probably strikes may not be necessary, if there is a strong trade union as it can back its demands. When there is a strong trade union I am certain that the employer of any industry will be in a position to sit across the table and negotiate on matters of differences. The time will soon come, when we will have, what I have stated with reference to the Labour policy of the Madras Government in the matter of conciliation, and when legislation may be necessary exactly on what we are doing already. For instance, to-day the Commissioner of Labour cannot act unless directed by the Government. Conciliators have no power to investigate because there is no legislation. No doubt we have created traditions and conventions. We would like to put those traditions and conventions in the statute-book. It may be necessary, more in the interests of the employer than of the workers. Conditions in an industry may be registered by the employer so that when a dispute arises the conciliator may be in a position to know what the conditions in the particular industry are. I may assure you that I am giving the greatest thought and attention to these matters and I do hope to produce at a very early stage the necessary legislation. I want to assure once again the representatives of both the workers and the employers that I would take them into my confidence and know what they think of it and thereafter the Government will proceed with these Bills. We do not want to keep anything from them. I shall place all the cards on the table, and I would like to know from them their views before I put them in the form of Bills.

"I must also say that when we tried to understand the conditions in the plantations, the employers in the plantations were not only courteous but gave every opportunity for the Members of the Government to make a study of their conditions. After a

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good deal of thought and consideration and after many visits from the Members of the Government concerned, Government have issued a Government Order. I do expect that the planters will accept the moderate recommendations made by the Government and I am certain that if these recommendations are carried out there will be greater contentment amongst the workers. I am also glad to find that the employers even in the plantations are not against the formation of sound organizations of workers and when *I was in the plantations I was allowed to address meetings* and even tell them that it was in the interests of the workers and the plantations that they should form organizations of trade unions.

"I do not wish to take more of the time of the House at *this stage. I merely wanted to place before the House definitely* the policy of the Government as regards Industries and Labour. I would like, Sir, just to explain in Telugu in a few minutes what I have generally stated, for the benefit of those gentlemen who do not know English.

" అధ్యక్షా, నేనిపుడు పరిశ్రమలనుగూర్చియు, కార్మికులను గూర్చియు గవర్నమెంటువారి యుద్దేశ్యమును కొన్నిటిని చెప్పినాను. పరిశ్రమలవిషయమై కాంగ్రెసు మహాజనసభయొక్క యుద్దేశ్యమేమో యీ మద్రాసు గవర్నమెంటువారియొక్క యుద్దేశ్యమునుగూడా అంతేనని మొదట చెప్పినాను. కాంగ్రెసు మహాజనసభ యొక్క యుద్దేశ్యము కరాచీ తీర్మానములో వివరముగా చెప్పబడియున్నది. ఆ మహాసభలో గ్రామ పరిశ్రమలను బాగుగా నిర్మించవలయుననియు, పెద్ద పెద్ద పరిశ్రమలు—కీ-ఇండస్ట్రీస్—కూడా కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వమువారు. జోక్యము కలుగజేసుకొని నిర్మించవలయుననియు చెప్పినారు. ఇవన్నియు పెట్టుటకు ఢిల్లిలో కాంగ్రెసు అధ్యక్షులు ప్లానింగు కమిటీని ఏర్పరచినారు. ఆ ప్లానింగు కమిటీలో పెద్ద పెద్ద industrialists, economists, scientists మొదలైన వారంతా మెంబర్లుగాయుండి మన దేశమునకు ఒక ప్లాన్ ఆఫ్ ఆక్షన్—అనగా ఏయే పరిశ్రమ లేయే విధముగా ఎచ్చటెచ్చట నిర్మించినచో వీలుగానుండునో ఆలోచించుచున్నారు. ఆ కమిటీలో మన కాంగ్రెసు గవర్నమెంటుయొక్క ప్రతినిధులును, సంస్థాన ప్రతినిధులును ఇంకను అనేకమంది మెంబర్లుగాయుండి జాగ్రత్తగా ఆలోచించి పనిచేయుచున్నారు. మన దేశములో ప్రస్తుతమున్న గ్రామ పరిశ్రమలు, గృహపరిశ్రమలు తగినంత ప్రచారమును, అమ్మకము లేక పడిపోవుచున్నవి. అందుకోసము మన గవర్నమెంటువారు ఏయే గ్రామములో ఏయే పరిశ్రమలున్నవో ప్రజలకందరికి తెలియుటకు ప్రతి జిల్లాలోని ముఖ్యపట్టణములలోను మ్యూజియములను నిర్మించదలచినారు. గవర్నమెంటువారు ఎంపోరియములనుకూడా పెట్టించి మ్యూజియములలోని వస్తువుల నచట పెట్టించి ఎవరైనా కొనేవారున్నట్లయితే అచట అమ్మకముగూడా జరుగును.

" ప్రతి జిల్లాలోనున్న మ్యూజియములకు పోయిచూచినచో ఆ జిల్లాలో ఏయే వస్తువులు తయారగునో తెలియగలదు. ఈ రాజధానికంతకు ఒక పెద్ద మ్యూజియమ్ మద్రాసులో ఏప్రిల్ మాసములో మరల మీరందరు అసెంబ్లీ సభలకు వచ్చునప్పటికి పెట్టెదము. ఆ మ్యూజియములో ఈ రాజధానిలో తయారగు సామానులన్నియు

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పెట్టబడును. వార్ధాలో అఖిల భారత మ్యూజియమ్ పెట్టినారు. అచట భారతదేశములో ఎచ్చటెచ్చట ఏయే వస్తువులు తయారగుచున్నవో అవన్నియు పెట్టబడును. మొన్నటి త్రిపురి కాంగ్రెసుకు అఖిలభారత మ్యూజియమ్ తెరిచినారు ఈ పద్ధతి నమలులో పెట్టుటకు గవర్నమెంటువారు జాగ్రత్తగా ఆలోచించుచున్నారు. మీ అందరి సహాయము లేనిదే వీటిని అమలులో పెట్టుటకు వీలుండదు. పరిశ్రమల సలహాదారుడు—ఎడ్వైజర్ ఆఫ్ ఇండస్ట్రీస్—క్రొత్త పరిశ్రమలనుగూర్చి సలహా నిచ్చినచో గవర్నమెంటు వారు దాని నమలులో పెట్టెదరు. 15 సంవత్సరములనుండి స్టేట్ ఆఫ్ ఇండస్ట్రీస్ మన దేశములో నున్నప్పటికీ ఇదివరకున్న గవర్నమెంటువారు ఏమియు సహాయము చేయలేకపోయినారు. కాంగ్రెసు గవర్నమెంటువారు వచ్చినతరువాత 6 పెద్ద పరిశ్రమలలో శ్రద్ధతీసుకొన్నారు. మిగిలిన పరిశ్రమలకుకూడా తక్కువ వడ్డీకి ధనము పెట్టుబడిపెట్టి సహాయము చేసినారు. ప్లానింగు కమీషను గురించి చెప్పునపుడు పరిశ్రమలెల్లు వృద్ధియగునో చెప్పినాను. పరిశ్రమలు బాగుపడుటకు ముఖ్య కారకులు కార్మికులు యజమానులైతేనేమి, గవర్నమెంటైతేనేమి ధనము పెట్టుబడి పెట్టినను కార్మికులు పనిచేయనిదే పరిశ్రమలు సాగవు. కావున వారియెడ సోదరభావముంచి వారిచే పనిచేయించుకొనుచు వారి కష్టములనుకూడా గమనించుచుండవలెను. ఈ గవర్నమెంటువారు వచ్చినతరువాత కార్మికులకు సాధ్యమైనంతవరకు సహాయపడు చున్నారు. వారిని కార్మిక సంఘములు పెట్టుకొనమనియు, అవసరమైనచో మేముకూడా సహాయము చేయుదుమనియు చెప్పినారు. ఇదివరకు ఏ గవర్నమెంటుకూడా కార్మికులు సంఘములు పెట్టుకొనుటకు అనుమతి నీయలేదు. యజమానులకు కార్మికులకు కలహములు వచ్చు సందర్భములలో అవి ఏయే యుద్దేశ్యములతో యుండవలెనో తెలుపుటకు ప్రయత్నము చేయుచున్నారు. పనివాళ్లకు కూలిపని పోయినచో వారికి పని కల్పించుటకును వారికి సహాయము చేయుటకును ఆలోచిస్తున్నాము. కార్మికులు ప్రస్తుతము నెలకు కొంత జీతము తెచ్చుకొనుచు, త్రాగుడుకు అలవాటుపడి పాడై పోవుచున్నారు. కావున మద్యనిషేధ శాసనమును త్వరలో అన్నిచోట్లను అమలులో పెట్టవలెను. పరిశ్రమలు బాగుపడాలంటే కార్మికులుకూడా జాగ్రత్తగా పనిచేయ వలసియుండును. ఈ విషయములన్నియు మీకందరకు ఎందుకు చెప్పినానంటే ఇంకొకపర్యాయము నేనిచట ఉపన్యాసము చేసినప్పుడు గవర్నమెంటువారు పరిశ్రమల విషయమై ఏమేమిచేసినారో మీకందరికి తెలియుటకొరకు చెప్పినాను.''

* Mr. H. S. TOWN:—'' Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 19,08,300 *for Industries be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

'' Sir, I intend to confine my remarks to the relations between labour and capital. If those relations are not happy we need not worry about industry because it will die a natural death. The Government's declared policy of conciliation and negotiation in labour disputes have our greatest-sympathy and we are in agreement with this policy. We admit that labour has a right to form unions and we welcome the strong and well-led union, especially if disciplined and if the members of the union will follow their leaders. With regard to the right of collective

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bargaining it is well established we approve of it because it is of advantage to the employer and the employed alike. We agree that there must be the final right to strike. Workers must have that right particularly if the employer is unreasonable and while labour must have its right to strike, the employer must have also his right to lock out.

" Last year Sir William Wright speaking on this cut motion spoke of the insubordination and indiscipline of labour. The Prime Minister then minimized this and made us feel that his opinion was that we took a far serious view of the position. We were therefore very glad to see and hear in the Premier's budget speech his very clear statement of the position. Since last year the position has worsened and from all sides come reports of growing indiscipline not only in factories but in the unions themselves. Indiscipline in trade unions is far more dangerous than indiscipline in the factory. The causes of strike to-day are often trivial and in some cases quite unconnected with the terms and conditions of employment. I would like in this connexion to quote two recent cases. In one there was no industrial cause of dispute whatsoever and the strike was undertaken to show that labour was the master. That was the reason. In the second case there was no industrial dispute but the strike was undertaken to prove labour's inherent right to strike. Both of these strikes took place in the factory of an employer who treats his labour well and both reveal bad and dangerous leadership in the trade union.

" I am no alarmist, Sir, and believe that given bold and strong leadership by Government many of our troubles can be overcome, but signs are not wanting that new capital is shy. I know of large sums waiting industrial investment if the sky clears. The possible failure to attract new capital is serious enough, for we need it if we are to advance and provide the means whereby the urban population can purchase the rural population's produce; but worse still we know that certain old capital is considering flight, a move that must bring great misery to many families. There is no doubt that subversive forces are at work and that those who direct them aim at the destruction of ordered society and care not in the least how much misery they cause. These forces know that if once they can cause a sufficient quantum of misery and unrest, then the ground is ready for sowing the seed of plain, naked and undiluted communism—a crop which tends to grow rapidly. These forces seek to overthrow all forms of ordered society irrespective of nation, caste or creed and if given sufficient reign will willingly overthrow our present Government and undo all its work and will substitute therefor a rule of cruel, relentness oppression. Let me make it clear here that I make no attack on the genuine leaders of labour who I believe can help labour and capital to better conditions and happier times.

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" We gladly acknowledge that Government have stated their abhorrence of the trend of industrial unrest, but such statements require to be followed up by energetic action. Much of our trouble arises from the fact that the masses, most illiterate, can be led away by promises of the impossible. Government, with its knowledge, discipline and understanding of mass psychology, which are the admiration of their political opponents, should act fearlessly and undertake a sustained propaganda in order to create an organized and active resistance to these forces which will, if left unchecked, ruin capital and labour alike. By continuous and widespread publicity, the Government can instil into the hearts of the workers courage to face this danger and overcome it. We know that many of the workers are afraid of the future. In all strikes where there has been little reason for striking or where the strike has been unreasonable, it has been noted that the majority of the workers have been willing to work, and if necessary to negotiate with their employers, but that a small party among the workers has threatened them with violence and it is these people who should have no quarter from any one. Government should take measures to shake the public out of its lethargy and force it to realize the dangers ahead. In my own country there have been two outstanding occasions when certain forces have attempted to hold the nation to ransom, and called a general strike, and what did we see? We saw University professors stoking railway engines, clerks working until midnight in order to free their friends, so that they could drive lorries conveying food, private car-owners delivering milk cans and the whole nation at work to retain ordered society. There is no reason why the Indian people properly led should not act in like manner.

" I would like, Sir, to reiterate our whole-hearted agreement with Government's declared policy but unfortunately, during the past twelve months strikes have occurred and courts of enquiry appointed, in which the workers have been held to have struck work without a just cause and yet recommendations have been made in their favour. Now, Sir, this naturally resulted in some of the workers looking at it this way. 'Let us have a strike. We may be held to be in the wrong but we may gain something we never struck for.' Sir, I do submit that a court of enquiry should not give the workers something which the workers never expected before the court of enquiry was instituted. In conclusion, Sir, I stress the importance of Government's policy being enforced, so that those unstable elements which would wreck society may not only be held in check, but rendered ineffective."

* Sri T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Mr. Speaker, in supporting the token cut motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Town I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for the long

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statement that he has made on the policy of Government regarding Industries and labour. *Before proceeding, Sir, to comparatively* unimportant matters of parochial importance which it is necessary for me to detail here, I would like to say a few words regarding the National planning idea. I know the main spring behind the Planning Committee is my Hon. Friend the Minister for Labour and Industries. I am also aware that big things are expected of this Committee. There is one fact however that I would like to point out. Certain well-known commercial interests in Calcutta and Bombay do not appear to be interested in this Planning Committee. Then, Sir, in regard to a province like ours which is not a very rich province I do not think the recommendations of a body like the National Planning Committee can have any great interest to us as it would not be easily possible for us to put these into effect. We know that the other provinces have well-developed industries. There are big industries functioning in Bombay and Bengal. Here whatever industries there *are, are largely in the hands of Europeans; Indians have taken* very little interest except in Coimbatore. It is not good to sit with folded hands and await the recommendations of the Committee which has to work under several limitations and even if it does produce a report it may take a number of years to put it into working shape. It will be a poor solace if we are asked to wait until this Committee has reported.

"Let me now come to the comparatively unimportant things as compared with a matter like the National Planning Committee, that is, the local Industries Department. Sir, we have got the report of the Industries Department where we find the details of the work done in the previous year. I must confess, Sir, that I am *not enamoured of this report after* a careful reading of it. The fact is that the development departments functioning like the Industries Department, the Fisheries Department, the Co-operative Societies, the Agricultural and Civil Veterinary Departments are all working independently and more or less tangentially, without any co-ordination. Scrutinizing these reports in detail will take a long time. The report under review gives routine replies to queries and the Director seems to be satisfied with giving expression to pious hopes about things that will be carried out next year. There is one chapter dealing with the future programme which is not edifying reading. The question arises, 'why was it not done all along?' There is no guarantee either that it would be done in the future.

15 "There is the statutory body called the Board of Industries.
n. The Government really depend upon the Director of Industries for guidance. The composition of the Board of Industries, if I may say so without casting any reflection on the individuals composing it is not one which is likely to help the industrial

progress of the country. It seems to be an unnecessary appendage and the Director of Industries could very usefully carry out the functions of the Board of Industries and Adviser to the Government.

"Then there is the question of statistics. Sir, the Government have recently amalgamated the Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information with the Statistical sections which are operated under the Revenue Board. Quite a lot of these statistics seem to have something to do with the Commissioner of Labour. There is no clear indication as to what they are going to do, but they are furnishing industrial statistics and agricultural statistics. These have very little to do with industries.

"Next, Sir, I wish to say something about the work done towards starting new industries. There is the Kerala Soap Works which, as a commercial proposition, is a good success. I do not think it is the beginning and end of Government's policy. The Government should start new works and get people to buy them later as they did in the case of the pencil factory. There is no point in keeping the Kerala Soap Works separately from the Leather Institute in Madras. These things must be combined.

"Then I come to the Textile Institute and the Government School of Technology. I see no reason for the existence of these two separate institutions. For one thing there are about eighty institutions functioning in the province intended to give industrial education. I do not know why if these institutions are strengthened there is any need for the existence of a Government School of Technology, and if there is any need, I think the Government School of Technology and the Textile Institute should be combined. Sir, these institutions cost a lot of money. I think Rs. 46,000 is the cost of one and about Rs. 83,000 that of the other. If they are combined, it will save some Government money.

"Then there is the question of the Inspector of Industrial Schools, who is being paid Rs. 1,200 per mensem. I do not know what work he does. Is it necessary to maintain a costly officer like that to inspect the eighty institutions that are being run at this cost? Have the Government got any idea about this? Can they not, in collaboration with the Education department, make secondary or elementary school authorities start industrial classes in their schools? Otherwise I do not see any need for maintaining a costly officer like the Inspector of Industrial Schools.

"With regard to the chapter on cottage industries, I was very happy to hear the remarks made by the Hon. Minister. But that does not seem to be translated into action by the department. There seems to be an air of optimism in his remarks, but his tools are defective and the people who are engaged in the work

are old-fashioned. The report on the other hand breathes an air of pessimism and does not radiate the optimism that is indicated in the Hon. Minister's speech.

"Sir, the Engineering branch of this Industrial Department is being run by the Industrial Engineer and his assistants the Assistant Industrial Engineers. Two of them have nine districts each and one has six districts under his control. I think it is hardly possible for anybody to do anything constructive in nine districts. For instance, in the Andhra districts which want a lot of attention to be paid to them, there is only one Assistant Industrial Engineer. The policy of the Government ought to be either to provide more Assistant Engineers or to appoint supervisors one for each district.

"Then I come to the Industrial Engineering Workshops. I think in reply to a question or in some other connexion the Hon. the Premier mentioned that it is the only concern that is not productive and entails a loss. Is it necessary to maintain an Industrial Engineering Workshop? Cannot it be amalgamated with the Industrial School and the cost of transport of articles from place to place saved?

"Sir, on the whole the report appears to be intended more as an attractive narrative to please the lay public. It contains no suggestions with regard to the future. Its immediate purpose seems to be more advertisement for the Industries Department than the revelation of any new plans that they have with regard to the scientific investigation of material resources or the starting of new industries.

"Then Sir, I wish to say a word about the administration of the Companies Act. I think last year I mentioned that it had best be handled by the new officer who has been rechristened as the Director of Industries and Commerce. As the administration of the Companies Act under the Madras Government has to be done on behalf of the Government of India, it may better be done by the Director of Industries and Commerce rather than by the Inspector-General of Registration.

"One other matter which I would like to mention in this connexion refers to the prices which also find a place in the report. I am referring to the prices of agricultural produce and to the price of sugarcane in particular. I think the Hon. Minister for Industries sometime back interfered with regard to the rates paid to sugarcane cultivators in the Hospet area, but nothing seems to have come of it because the local factory owners did not like the prices fixed. Sir, the circumstances have changed since the last eight months. The prices of sugar have advanced due to the work of the Sugar Syndicate by about Rs. 7 per bag of two cwt. This profit that is made by the sugar manufacturer is not passed on in any manner to the agriculturists. In the

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United Provinces, I think special legislation has been passed to enable the Government to fix the price of sugarcane and they have fixed it at Re. 0–6–9 per maund. But in our Province the sugar-producing concerns had at one time interests in sugarcane cultivation but they have dropped out because they found that they can get sugarcane at very good and cheap rates from the agriculturists. I think the Government ought to interfere when the manufacturer is getting something like Rs. 7 per bag owing to adventitious circumstances, and place the ryot in a good position. They ought to make him share this profit with the producer of sugarcane.

" Another small detail which my constituency has asked me to mention may appropriately find a place here. It is with regard to a commercial laboratory for industrial purposes. It is worthwhile starting one. It may be that a laboratory may be necessary when the Government of India brings in a Drug Import Bill. Whatever it is, I think it is worthwhile to have a commercial and industrial laboratory of the kind that they have in Mysore.

" Another matter probably not quite germane to the cut motion, is the question of commercial education. Though Education is under the portfolio of the Minister for Education, I think it is the Minister for Commerce and Industries who has got to take up the question of commercial education, because it is part of his work. If Government have any idea of encouraging such education, they ought to bring pressure to bear on universities to award degrees in commerce like the Andhra University.

" Sir, with regard to the labour policy, I was very pleased with the very encouraging manner in which the Hon. Minister dealt with this problem. I am one of those who believes personally that both parties should have fair dealing and nothing will achieve that result better than the passing of suitable and appropriate legislation with the consent of both parties. I daresay employers are by now familiar with the changed conditions. I welcome the Government proposals in this respect. The Government have to bring in legislation embodying the agreed wishes of both the employees and the employers."

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Sir, the policy of the Government regarding industries seems to be to encourage the employer and to discourage the worker. The Hon. the Premier in his Budget speech said that the employers are reasonable and the workers are unreasonable. I would . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I should like you to ask for the exact quotation, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Surely it is a wrong statement."

SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" I have not got speech with me at the moment, Sir."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Is it my Budget speech he is referring to, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think so."

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Yes, to the printed Budget speech of this year."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, I am passing on a copy of my Budget speech to the hon. Member."

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Sir, last year . . ."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, before he proceeds, I should like the correction to be made or the quotation to be pointed out."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Certainly that must be done."

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" I would give the quotation at the end of my speech, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No. The Hon. the Premier disputes that statement which the hon. Member made. The Premier never made the statement attributed to him and the hon. Member is building up his argument upon a wrong assumption."

Sri Karunakaram Subba Rao was seen standing looking into the pages of the Budget speech.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Apparently, Sir, the Member was speaking from a general impression in his own mind." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Was it from paragraph 2 of page 11 that the hon. Member got that impression? "

Sri Karunakaram Subba Rao was still looking into the pages.

SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" How long are we to wait, Sir? " (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" I will decide it. Mr. Karunakaram Subba Rao must have, I think, formed his conclusion from paragraph 2 of page 11 of the Budget speech.

30 m. Is it from that paragraph that the hon. Member has enunciated his proposition? "

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Sir, this is what is contained in paragraph 2 of page 11 of the Budget speech of the Hon. Premier. This is how it runs:—

'The Government have published a comprehensive volume that records all that has been done as regards industrial disputes. I claim that we have done remarkably well and are grateful to the spirit of reasonableness on the part of managements that has enabled us to achieve what we have achieved, etc.'

" MR. SPEAKER:—" Where is the statement which the hon. Member has just now made, viz., 'that the employers have been reasonable and the employees were unreasonable' in that paragraph which he has just now quoted? "

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* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Sir, the latter part of my remark can be inferred from the two paragraphs of the Hon. Premier's speech on page 11 of his Budget speech."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think it is a very damaging inference. I think the hon. Member may finish his speech soon. Does the hon. Member withdraw the statement that he made? "

SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" No, Sir."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I can only say that it is very unreasonable."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Does the hon. Member adhere to the original proposition that he made? "

SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" No, but to the inference that could be drawn from that paragraph regarding the latter part of my remark."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What is the proposition that was first made by the hon. Member? Will he repeat the statement to which he wants to adhere now? "

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" The Hon. Premier in his Budget speech states that ' employers are reasonable.' The natural corollary that could be drawn from that is that the employees are unreasonable."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I do not think I have even said that the ' employers are reasonable,' etc. Such a universal statement it is difficult for me to make, even if I am lax in my judgment."

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Then I withdraw my remark.

" Sir, I would give an instance where the employers have been most unreasonable. In Chittivalasa jute mills last year, there was a strike for three and a half months and a Court of Enquiry was appointed, but the recommendations of the Court of Enquiry were not accepted by the management. But what was the result of all this enquiry, Sir? The only result that came out of this enquiry was that there was firing and lathi charge. Government in their over-anxiety for the industrial advancement of the country discouraged labour. I submit that industries cannot be developed by discouraging labour. Government must have a definite scheme of industrial planning. The economic condition of the country and industries can only be developed by Government evolving schemes in collaboration with capital and labour. Government of late began to condemn strikes. In Chittivalasa Jute Mills there was a stay-in-strike and it was declared a violent form of criminal trespass. In Bengal there was a stay-in-strike in Saxby and Farmer factory from 1st to 15th March 1939 but that strike was not declared a violent form of criminal trespass by the Bengal Government and of late that dispute was settled

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in favour of workers. In Nagpur there was stay-in-strike and it was not declared unlawful by the Government of that Province. In Chittivalasa Jute Mills the workers were ruthlessly beaten by lathis and there was firing also. At dead of night on the 14th June 1938 about one o'clock in the night, there was firing when almost all the workers were sleeping and when some were talking. There was absolutely no violence on the part of the workers at that hour. Most of the workers were sleeping; and at that time there were no other persons except the workers in the Mill proper."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I wish to raise a point of order, Sir. The present discussion is on the Demand for Industries. I do not wish to be too exact, but I want to remind you, Sir, that the hon. Member will have to be satisfied with very brief references to the action of the Government in dealing with that strike, and not to make references to a point of view which would bring in here the subject of law and order into our consideration, and not the industrial policy of the Government. The hon. Member is referring to what happened after the police intervened under certain circumstances and not to the industrial policy of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" He is stating as to how strikes were being handled by the Government."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The hon. Member began with stay-in-strike. As long as he was referring to stay-in-strike, he was perfectly in order. But when he referred as to what happened in the handling of the situation by the magistracy and the police, I would submit it would necessitate a defence by the Government from a wholly different point of view. I would submit that if such a reference is allowed it is not possible to deal with the industrial policy at all. I do not wish to be too exact—I repeat it here—but if the hon. Member is going to deal with the merits as to how the magistracy or the police handled the situation it would necessitate our going back to a different thing from what we are to discuss now."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Apart from that, is not this matter going to be considered, now that the Government have appointed a Committee to enquire into this? "

* THE HON SRI. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" That is the substantial reason why I raised the point of order."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The matter is now under enquiry by a Committee appointed by the Government. It is not proper to refer to it now. When that Committee reports, you will have a discussion on that report on the floor of this House."

AN HON. MEMBER:—" He is not referring to a matter which is *sub-judice* now. He is discussing about the policy of the Government regarding stay-in-strikes."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not the general policy with regard to all stay-in-strikes that he is referring to. He is only referring to this particular strike. That matter is now under enquiry and as such no useful purpose would be served by referring to it now."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I think it is as well that I clear the position. The hon. Member may discuss certainly our policy of condemnation of stay-in-strikes. I do not wish to shut out his liberty in doing so."

MR. SPEAKER:—" After the report is submitted to the Government and the Government have come to their conclusions, the hon. Member will be at liberty to comment upon that portion of the report which relates to this subject. Now the matter is under the serious consideration of the Government. So, the hon. Member may go to another aspect of the Demand."

* SRI KARUNAKARAM SUBBA RAO:—" Sir, with regard to the Sugar Factory at Samalkot, about 300 workers were removed in 1937. When the workers pressed on the employers to give them some maintenance allowance during the unemployment period, the employers were pleased to grant them doles. During their unemployment period they were given maintenance allowance for one year. This year about 168 workers were removed in the month of January, but on account of the present policy of the Government which is to encourage the employers, they refused to give any maintenance allowance to the workers.

" Another point is that the workers from the very advent of this Government were promised that some suitable enactments would be placed on the Statute Book regarding unemployment relief, leave with pay, etc. Up to now no Labour legislation has come into existence. There were several disputes and they were more or less patched up in a way. This Government are trying to treat these disputes by the symptoms, and they are never trying to root out the prime cause. The Hon. Minister for Labour has been pleased to say that he would introduce Labour legislation very soon. I would request the Hon. Minister to introduce a suitable legislation for establishing Arbitration Courts to settle the disputes then and there only.

" Government tried last year to tackle the problem of unemployment. There was a concurrence between the employers and the workers and it was suggested that every worker should pay 3 pies per day towards unemployment fund, and every employer also 3 pies. The Government also suggested that they should handle this fund and give relief to the unemployed workers, but as yet that scheme has not seen the light of day. The employers are not at all willing to recognize the unions, though they say that they are willing to recognize them. They are putting forth lot of conditions which are not at all practicable for the workers to observe. Recognition of the union means giving out facts and

figures of the mill management; workers must be in a position to know where they are and whether the industry is thriving or not. Then only the workers will be able to know where they are; and the strikes would be lessened only after the recognition of their unions and the employers giving them facts and figures with regard to the working of the mill."

.45 * H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, it is .m. gratifying to see that the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour has been labouring unceasingly ever since he took up office in planning and regenerating industries in this Province. He has been labouring under handicaps too on account of the increasing number of strikes and sometimes lightning strikes. I believe, Sir, that among the Ministers he is the one who is always working at a very high tension. He has been doing his very best.

" Sir, the other day the Hon. the Premier advised the Muslim community that they should concentrate their attention on education rather than on the percentage of their representation in the services. I should like to take this opportunity to tell the Government that the Muslims are always anxious to have education and that they want to get facilities from the Government for the purpose. So far as the industrial education of Muslims is concerned, I believe there are four Muslim industrial schools in the Province—one at Madras, namely, the Anjuman Industrial School, the other at Vellore, the third at Tiruppattur and the fourth at Melvisharam. The most important is the Madras Anjuman Industrial school which gives training in carpentry and cabinet making, drugget-making, rattan work, dyeing and tailoring. Muslims are anxious to have industrial education and I hope the Government will do something to advance industrial education among Muslims. Of course, industries by whomsoever they are started will benefit the whole Province and not one community alone. It is the pioneers who take the trouble of starting an industry but it is the people as a whole who reap the benefit of it. Sir, these industrial schools are getting a grant of half the net cost, but all these four schools find it difficult to carry on with this grant of half the net cost. I would therefore appeal to the Government to give a special grant of 25 per cent more to these institutions.

" With regard to the scholarships that are being granted for industrial education there are sixty scholarships awarded every year and tenable for five years. In 1936 ten scholarships were awarded to Muslims—six to Muslim boys and four to Muslim girls. In 1937 again ten scholarships were awarded to boys and girls. In 1938 the number was reduced to seven and no scholarship was given to Muslim girls. I want to urge on the Government the necessity for increasing the number of industrial scholarships to Muslim students. At least the number of ten should have been maintained in 1938 also. I hope that Government will pay greater attention to Muslim education by awarding more scholarships to Muslim students.

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"I want to say one word with regard to the scholarships tenable at the Victoria Technical Institute. I request that every year one scholarship at least may be awarded to Muslim students.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachariar referred to the Industrial Engineering workshop and said that it might be amalgamated with the other industrial workshops. Perhaps he meant the Public Works Department Workshop. But I would say that the need for an Industrial Engineering Workshop is all the greater to-day on account of the Government's scheme of rural water-supply. No doubt, this Industrial Engineering Workshop is being treated as a commercial concern and it has been a losing concern. But I find that since 1932 onwards the loss has been steadily decreasing. Therefore, Sir, when there is a great need for such a workshop for manufacturing boring sets and for manufacturing and repairing tools, I think that no useful purpose will be served by amalgamating it with any other workshop. This workshop has got its own sphere of activity. Some specialized skill is required not only in field work but also in manufacturing boring sets and other tools required in the rural water-supply scheme and irrigation schemes. The other day the Hon. the Premier in his reply to the general discussion on the budget said that the Industrial Engineer's Workshop was the only losing concern. But the loss, whatever it might have been, is steadily decreasing. On the other hand the advantages that have accrued or that are going to accrue in future will be much more and they will counterbalance any loss which might have been incurred. This workshop should be regarded as a public utility service and not as a commercial concern. Therefore, Sir, I put in a strong plea not only for retaining the Industrial Engineering Workshop but also for strengthening it still further.

"I find from the memorandum that a machinery is going to be evolved for manufacturing sand paper. I would like to have some details from the Hon. the Minister with regard to this machinery. There is also a statement in the memorandum that certain scholarships are proposed to be given to some students for training in hand paper-making. I do not think, Sir, that this will be a profitable line of business. After all, Sir, we are having paper made by machinery and I do not think that this kind of industry can successfully compete with machine-made paper. With these few remarks, Sir, I support the token cut motion."

* Sri P. R. K. SARMA:—"Mr. Speaker, in moving the cut motion, Mr. Town raised the bogey of communism and said that indiscipline and disorderliness in unions and factories had developed. It is customary for employers' representatives to level such charges in the discussion of this Demand and I, therefore, do not propose to give any serious attention to him on this point. But I must examine some of his other observations. He drew a

gloomy picture of the industrial relations in the Province and stated that the position had worsened since the presentation of the last Budget. He should remember that if more disputes had occurred during the period, they were due to the obstinacy of most of the employers and the pernicious interference of the Employers' Federation of South India which had been very active of late. The Federation had put its mischievous finger in almost every dispute and made negotiations and settlement difficult and even impossible. If the employers and employees had been left to themselves, many of the disputes would have terminated without serious developments. Mr. Town deprecated Courts of Enquiry, Conciliation Boards and Arbitrators dealing with or giving findings on issues which the workers or their organization had not raised before going on strike, while conducting negotiations. The workers have never raised such issues. But, in actual experience, it has been found that it is the employers who spring such issues during investigations of disputes. It is they who say that work has gone down, staff had become surplus and they could not take back all the workers who had gone on strike. It is they who raise such issues and indulge in victimization. The Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries could give his own personal experience of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway strike in which the employers raised the issue that the staff had become surplus and victimized 365 workers in the settlement of the strike. I wish to tell Mr. Town 'Physician! heal thyself'.

"In spite of the numerous strikes and lock-outs that have occurred, during the last twelve months, I must congratulate the Government and the Hon. Minister in charge of Labour and Industries on the good work they have done to promote 'industrial peace' in the Province and to improve the condition of labour. In fact, the very occurrence of these disputes enabled the Government to show that they have a definite policy in the matter and to do all they have done.

"We are passing through a period of transition in the industrial life of the Presidency and it is indeed a very difficult time for the Government. With the inauguration of responsible government in the Province, and the Congress party taking charge of the Government, expectations were roused among the workers of securing early remedies for the sufferings they had borne patiently all along. With a popular government in power and the declaration of policy on their part that *bona fide* trade unions will be welcomed and encouraged, a new hope has dawned among the workers and they have begun to organize themselves into powerful unions for securing their reasonable demands. This awakening of the workers has not been welcomed by all employers. Employers in many places have begun to feel that they should resist the growth of the unions. Inevitably, clashes occur resulting in disputes which are sometimes prolonged. It cannot be said

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by any reasonable person with the knowledge of facts that labour has either put forward unreasonable demands or resorted to direct action before being driven to it by the obstinacy of the employers. A perusal of the Government's publication 'Labour in Madras' and an analysis of the various disputes, their causes and the findings of the Arbitrators, Conciliation Boards and Courts of Enquiry appointed by the Government, will clearly show that the workers have neither been unreasonable nor have allowed themselves to be misled by anybody. With my personal experience and knowledge of many of the disputes, I can assert with emphasis, that almost all the strikes were due to the regrettable attitude of employers. Wherever employers have been reasonable, sympathetic and ready to appreciate workers' points of view, strikes have seldom occurred.

"It has been a very common experience to find employers attempting to undermine workers' organizations. It is only the other day that we heard the Director of a flourishing textile mill in Madura stating that he had discharged a large number of his workers as he did not like their being members of a union which has been in existence for many years and has dealt with many employers like him and is in fact, fully recognized by such a leading company as the Harvey Mills in the same town. Whether at Chittivalasa, Tirupur, Coimbatore or Tiruvottiyur, the experience has been the same. But for the strong hand of the Government and the vigilance of the Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries who has always tried to avert disastrous conflicts between employers and employees, the latter's attitude would have resulted in serious situations all over the province.

"Labour has been very patient. The wonder is not that there 5 p.m. have been so many strikes but there have not been more strikes Except in a few undertakings, the workers are suffering everywhere without any of the elementary privileges, such as security of service, leave and holidays with pay and provision for old age, not to speak of their unfettered right to be members of trade unions. Even after a three months' strike, the proceedings and findings of the Court of Enquiry, and the pressure exercised by the Government, the Management of the Western India Match Co., Tiruvottiyur, refused to grant to their workers a few days leave with pay and provision for old age, in spite of their virtual monopoly of the industry in the country. Similarly, if to-day strikes are breaking out in the various factories in the City, it is due to the employers' refusal to recognize the reasonable claims of labour for such elementary facilities, which some good employers have even voluntarily granted.

"The Hon. Premier in introducing the Budget paid a tribute to the spirit of reasonableness on the part of employers in the province which he said, had been helpful in the settlement of disputes. While I do not grudge this compliment at all, I must say that without reasonableness on the other side, the boasted

achievements would never have been possible. Whenever a Court of Enquiry, Arbitrator or a Conciliator was appointed, the workers have gone to work, pending the results of investigations. The one-sided compliment of the Hon. Premier is likely to create an impression in the public mind that while the employers have been angelic, the workers have been completely at fault. Signs are not wanting to show that already the employers have begun to feel that the Government are on their side, even though we have no such serious apprehensions.

" Strikes and lock-outs are nothing new to the industrial world. They have occurred in the past and are bound to occur in the future as well, till the present order of society continued. Many industrial disputes, even of a gigantic character, have taken place in the province during the last fifteen years. But the Government never gave any attention to them, except probably to order promulgation of section 144 or to issue orders for shooting. It is only after the formation of the Congress Ministry in the Province that the Government began to interest themselves, actually, in the relations between employers and employees and the settlement of disputes arising among them. As the previous Government never cared to interfere in labour disputes and had no policy at all, they did nothing to evolve a suitable machinery for the settlement of labour disputes. In those days even the Commissioner of Labour never cared to interest himself in such matters. When workers and employers were at logger-heads in the City, it was customary to find the Commissioner of Labour enjoying his summer in the salubrious heights of Ootacamund.

" The strikes and lock-outs are symptoms of a disease in the industrial system and we grant that the present Government have, undoubtedly, been dealing with them. But the root cause of the maladies have not been attacked by the Government so far. They have, of course, interfered in disputes and have even taken strong action in a few cases. But that is not enough. The successful settlement of many disputes is due to the personality of the Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries and his experience in tackling such situations. This cannot go on for ever. The Hon. Minister cannot afford the time and the attention to worry himself with all the disputes occurring in the province. *A systematic machinery must be statutorily established for prompt and immediate settlement of disputes as they occur.* The Government should lose no time in enacting legislation for securing the workers an 8-hour day, minimum wages, leave and holidays with pay, provision for old age and sickness and during periods of unemployment. Legislation should also be introduced for relieving the indebtedness of the industrial workers. The Hon. Minister has been assuring the workers that such legislation will be enacted; but the delay is causing anxiety. I am aware that the Hon. Minister has not been keeping quiet in the matter. I know that he has been very active,

discussing and considering proposals for enacting labour legislation. I must thank the Hon. Premier for the long interview which he was pleased to grant to me and some representatives of Labour in this Assembly when we placed before him our proposals and appealed to him to introduce the legislation very early. The Premier assured us that the matter has been receiving his attention and that before August, or at least before the end of the year, suitable legislation will be enacted for the protection of the interests of labour and the promotion of social justice and peace in industry.

"In this connexion, I would be failing in my duty if I do not remind the Government's obligation to their own workers in undertakings like the Public Works Department Workshop, Industrial Engineering Workshop, Government Press, Stationery Stores and Kerala Soap Factory. While some private employers have introduced reasonable gratuity provision for their workers, we find in the Public Works Department Workshop, the Government still denying more than six months' wages for workers with over twenty years of service. The scheme of gratuity is most unscientific. As to the rates of wages they are very low when compared to similar undertakings. Hundreds of Government employees like the poor gardeners in the Marina have absolutely no provision against old age or sickness. In the Government Press, the Government have not yet abolished the inhuman piecework system, nor have they allowed adult workers the minimum salary of Rs. 15 a month, to which they are already entitled even according to the existing rules. I would appeal to the Government to examine without delay the difficulties and hardships in the service conditions of workers in their undertakings and set an example to private employers in the province.

"Lastly I should like to refer to the interference of the police in disputes between workers and employers, which often creates complications and hinders speedy settlement. The moment a strike breaks out, the police rush to the help of the employers out of a mistaken sense of duty or on the invitation of the employers themselves and the factories are converted into armed police camps. Workers are arrested even when peacefully picketing. When the disputes are settled, the unions and sometimes, both parties have to approach the Government for the release of the prisoners. The Government have been willing to show such concession which I must gratefully acknowledge on this occasion. While no one is against the preservation of law and order, I must deprecate the unnecessary and even provoking interference of the police in industrial disputes. The launching of vexatious, costly and ruinous prosecutions against the workers on the wild and perverted allegations of the employers, as is now being done in the Western India Match Factory, Tiruvottiyur, is another matter which the Government would do well to prevent. There is a strong feeling

that the situation there was created by the employers themselves. Workers assert that Ghurka watchmen were employed on the day, that the gates of the factory were closed and that the officers shot at the workers while the watchmen freely used their deadly weapons. Several workers have been injured seriously. But yet, only workers have been arrested and clapped up in prison for about a month to rot there till they were released on bail. The prosecutions are going on and no one knows what will happen. The matter is *sub-judice* and I shall not go into the details of the case.

"While the factory is gradually resuming work on the one hand and the union and the employers are both co-operating with each other in the re-starting of work on the other hand, the prosecution is going on with all its scope for creation of bitterness between the workers and the management. I demand that the police should not interfere in industrial disputes unless law and order is definitely threatened, and that no prosecutions should be launched against the workers on the wild and unfounded complaints of the employers before an impartial Committee of Enquiry has gone into all the facts and given their findings and the Government feel after careful consideration of all aspects that action is necessary. I would appeal to the Government to withdraw the prosecutions against the workers, at least, on the strength of the evidence so far gathered by the Court in the course of the trial which has been going on now, for about a month.

"The Government and the Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries have been trying to do their best to help labour. It will be the height of injustice to complain that they have not done anything. If their interference has not been effective, it is due to the absence of legislation, the obstinacy of employers and also sometimes to the want of intelligent co-operation on the part of organizations of workers.

"I hope that the Government would lose no time in introducing labour legislation and they may rest assured that the workers will stand by them and will co-operate with them in promoting industrial peace in the province."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Mr. Speaker. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Just five minutes."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of a cut motion on this Demand, with the special object of discussing the question of cottage industries, and especially the policy of the Government in regard to cottage industries in the country. At the outset, I may say that I am not a specialist in cottage industries or in regard to labour and strikes; but as I come from a rural area, I may say that any casual observer can easily understand the necessity for the landless labourer and the agriculturist to have some sort of by-industry or cottage industry, especially

during months of unemployment. Only with that view, I want to make a few suggestions to the Government, so that they may start some cottage industries in rural parts.

" Sir, at present, cottage industries in our province are at a low ebb, because of the crude methods of production and of the low quality of production because of the antiquity of the machines and tools employed at present. Secondly, Sir, it is well known that there are not enough marketing facilities for these cottage industries. Wherever these industries thrive, the articles produced have to be distributed only in the neighbourhood, and hence, the producers are not able to make a living out of these industries. I therefore urge this Government to consider the starting of some of these cottage industries in rural parts, especially in the Ceded districts. I find, Sir, from statistics, that there are nearly 84 per cent of the population living in rural areas, having no work to do after the harvest season. I wish that the present Government should call for statistics regarding these landless labourers and agriculturists, carry on intensive education and propaganda by the exhibition of the products of these cottage industries and also advertise them in the other provinces and Native States. As it is, some of these cottage industries to-day are thriving very slowly because they are not properly advertised, nor are they given sufficient facilities for being exported. In order to encourage some of these industries, I would request the present Government to take topical films of some of the important cottage industries and exhibit them in some centres, both in the rural and urban areas. The Government may open some industrial centres in places where there is already some cottage industry or where there is any chance of a cottage industry growing, so that adequate training may be given to the people in that locality. I earnestly appeal to the Government that better marketing facilities should be afforded to some of these industries. The other day, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon. Minister for Agriculture made a passing reference to the slate industry in Markapur. I would ask the Government, what help they have rendered to this indigenous industry in Markapur. I know nearly Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 lakhs worth of slates are being imported into this country; if you encourage this industry in the Kurnool district and finance it liberally and encourage the workers to produce better slates, by giving special facilities for marketing, etc., I am sure this industry in the Kurnool district will have a bright future.

" Coming to other schemes about rural uplift undertaken in some of the provinces of the country, I may make special reference to the Central Provinces scheme. Sir, in the Central Provinces, the Government have established local centres of instruction in hand-loom industry and kept them in charge of workers, paid at the rate of about Rs. 20 per mensem. This they have done in consultation with the All-India Industries Association; they have also started

subsidiary industries and they have given a fillip to such industries as oil-pressing and some other minor industries. I request this Government to take into consideration the progress made in this respect by the other provinces and introduce some of these schemes into our province.

" There is another industry, Sir, which, if properly developed, can became a remarkable success. I refer to our languishing poultry farming. His Excellency the Viceroy, while opening the new section of the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute at Izatnagar, said that our domestic fowls in India are estimated at 173 million birds. ' I daresay every house is a potential farm, as it is within the scope of even the small farmer; with a little attention, good accommodation and proper feeding, this will eventually become a small-scale industry.' A good hen well-fed will eat about 5 annas worth of food in a month and will in turn lay eggs worth 14 annas. So, by keeping 30 hens, a man can earn a profit of about Rs. 11 per mensem or Rs. 130 per annum, with a little trouble. I therefore urge that our Government should pay some more attention to this industry of poultry-farming and organize it suitably. It is gratifying to note that the Government are taking some interest in this direction by giving training to certain officials. The knowledge thus obtained must be disseminated and distributed in the rural parts. It is lamentable that there are only two egg-sale societies in our province, when there could be hundreds and thousands. One is working at a profit of Rs. 3–15–0 and another at a loss. The Madras Provincial Marketing Society is undertaking the sale, which is highly unsatisfactory. Special societies must be started for this work.

" With these words, Sir, I support the cut motion."

.15 .m. Sri N. G. Ramaswami Nayudu rose.

Sri G. KRISHNA RAO :—" On a point of order, Sir. I want to ask if His Excellency the Governor-General's quotation could be nsed for the purpose of influencing the debate? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The debate is now finished."

* Sri N. G. RAMASWAMI NAYUDU :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் இருக்கும்படியான தொழிலாளர்களுடைய நெருக்கடியான நிலைமையில் அவர்களுக்கிருக்கும்படியான கஷ்ட நஷ்டங்களை, குறைகளை, நிவர்த்திசெய்வதற்கு நேர்மையான முறையில் பல இடங்களில் அஹிம்ஸா தர்மத்தோடு அவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்து இருக்கிறார்கள். இதில் வேண்டுமென்றே மில் முதலாளிகள் சில போக்கிரிகளையும் குண்டர்களையும் தயார்செய்து தொழிலாளர்கள் இயக்கத்திற்குப் பாதகம் உண்டாக்கவேண்டுமென்ற கெட்ட எண்ணத்துடன் தொழிலாளர்கள் பேரில் பழி சுமத்தும் நோக்கத்துடன், தொழிலாளர்களிடையேயிருந்து அவர்களை (அந்த போக்கிரிகளை, குண்டர்களை, கல்லெறியச் சொல்லி அவர்கள் கல்லெறிகிறதைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் கல்லெறிகிறார்களென்று போலீஸுக்கு மில் முதலாளிகள் ரிப்போர்ட்டுச் செய்து, போலீஸார் உடனே தொழிலாளர்களை அரஸ்டு

28th March 1939] [Sri N. G. Ramaswami Nayudu]

செய்கிறதும் ஜெயிலில் போடுகிறதுமான இந்த அநீதியை, அட்டூழியத்தை, அக்கிரமத்தை இன்று நாம் கண்கூடாகப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறோம். இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் பரிபூரணமாக ஆங்காங்கு விசாரணை கோர்ட்டுகளை, பஞ்சாயத்துக்களை ஏற்படுத்தி வெற்றிகரமான முறையில் நடத்தத் தொழிலாளர் மந்திரி கனம் வி. வி. கிரி அவர்கள் வெகு பிரயாசைப்பட்டு இரவும் பகலுமாக வேலை செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதை நாங்கள் முழுமனதுடன் பாராட்டுகிறோம். முதலாளிகள், காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் மெஜாரிட்டியாகக் கைப்பற்றி விட்டார்கள், காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்காரைக் கவிழ்த்து விடவேண்டுமென்று இப்படிப்பட்ட பெரிய புரளியைச் செய்கிறார்கள்.

"ஆனைமலை, வால்பாறை போன்ற இடங்களிலும், நீலகிரிப் பிரதேசங்களிலுமுள்ள காப்பித் தோட்டங்களிலும், தேயிலைத் தோட்டங்களிலும் வேலை செய்துகொண்டிருக்கும் தொழிலாளர்களைப் பார்த்தால் மிகவும் பரிதபிக்கக்கூடிய நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். மனிதர்களென்று நினைக்கக்கூடிய நிலைமையிலில்லாமல் கண்கள் உள்ளேபோய், கைகால் சிறுத்து, வயிறு பெருத்துக் காசநோயினாலும் மலேரியா சுரத்தினாலும் கஷ்டப்பட்டு நாலைந்து வருஷங்கூட வேலை செய்ய லாயக்கில்லாதிருக்கிறார்கள். இன்றைய தினம் அங்கு வேலை செய்யும் ஹரிஜனங்கள் சமூகத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் நிலைமை இம்மாதிரி பாழடைந்து வருகிறதை நாம் கண்கூடாகப் பார்க்கிறோம். இந்த மலைப் பிரதேசங்களில் கொசுக் கடியினால் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டும், குடியிருக்க வீடு வசதியில்லாமல் ஒரு சின்ன வீட்டில் நாலைந்து பேர்களிருந்து வசிக்கும்படியான நிலைமையில், சுண்ணாம்பு அரிசியைச் சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டும், அதனால் வயிற்று கடுப்பு முதலிய நோய்கள் ஏற்படக்கூடிய நிலைமையில் இன்றையதினம் இருந்து வருகிறார்கள்.

"மில் பிராந்தியங்களில் தொழிலாளர்கள் நிலைமையை எடுத்துக் கொண்டால்—ஆண் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய கஷ்டம் ஒரு புறமிருக்க, பெண் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய நிலைமையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால்—மிகவும் பரிதாபமாயிருக்கிறது. மில் மானேஜர்கள் பெண் தொழிலாளர்களை ஆபீசுக்கு வரச்சொன்னால் வரவில்லையென்றால் உடனே அவர்களை டிஸ்மிஸ் செய்கிறார்கள். இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட கண்றாவியைக் கண் கூடாகப் பார்க்கிறோம். கலியாணமாகாத பெண்கள், இந்த மாதிரி கஷ்டத்துக்குள்ளாகிறவர்கள், பின்னால் தங்கள் இந்து சம்பிரதாயப்படி கலியாணம் நடத்த முடியாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். இப்படிப்பட்ட அநீதி, அக்கிரமம், அட்டூழியம் நடக்கிறதைத் தடுக்கப் பெண் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை பாக்டரி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களாக நியமிக்கவேண்டும். மில்களில் பெண்கள் வேலை செய்யுமிடங்களில் பெண்களை அவர்களுக்கு மேற் பார்வை பார்க்கும் வேலையில் (உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களாக) மில் மானேஜ்மெண்டார் நியமிக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். ஆண்களை நியமிக்கக் கூடாது. ஆண்களை நியமித்தால் அவர்கள் பெண்கள் கற்பை அழிக்க முயலுகிறார்கள். பெண்கள் உடனே ஒத்துக்கொள்ளாவிட்டால் டிஸ்மிஸ் செய்கிறார்கள். இப்படிபட்ட நிலைமையை நாம் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறோம் இதை நிவர்த்தி செய்ய நாம் பாடுபடவேண்டும் மில்களில் சுக தார நிலைமை சரியாயில்லை, சரியான காற்றோட்டமில்லாமலிருக்கிறதினால் பஞ்சுத் தூசியினால் காசநோய், பேர்கொலாஸிஸ், மில்தொழிலாளர்களுக்குண்டாகி ஐந்து வருஷம், பத்து வருஷத்திற்குக்கூட வேலை செய்ய லாயக்கில்லாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் சக்தியெல்லாம்போய் காசநோய் வாய்பட்டிருக்கும் அவர்களுடைய குழந்தைகள் எம்மாதிரி இருக்கிறார்களென்றால் எலும்பும் தோலுமாக இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையிலிருக்கும் அந்தக் குழந்தைகளுக்குப் பள்ளிக்கூடம் உண்டா, சுகாதாரம் உண்டா, ஆஸ்பத்திரி உண்டா, மருந்து உண்டா? டாக்டர் வாரத்துக்கொருமுறை வந்து போகிறார் **Maternity Benefit Act** பிரகாரம் மில் முதலாளிகள் என்ன

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செய்கிறார்கள்.? பெண்கள் வேலைக்கு வேண்டுமென்றால் ஒன்று விதவைகளாக இருக்க வேண்டும் அல்லது கலியாணமாகாத பெண்களாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறார்கள். கல்யாணமான பெண்களை வேலைக்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்கிறதில்லை. கலியாணமான பெண்கள் வேலைக்கு வந்தாலும் அவர்கள் சரியாக வேலை செய்யவில்லை என்று குற்றங் கண்டுபிடித்து வேலைக்கு வேண்டாமென்று நிறுத்தி விடுகிறார்கள். ஏனென்றால் கலியாணமான பெண்களை வேலைக்கு வைத்தால் அவர்களுக்கு **Maternity Benefit Act** பிரகாரம் கர்ப்பகாலத்தில் சம்பளத்துடன் ரஜா கொடுக்கவேண்டியது முதலிய நிர்பந்தமிருக்கிறதென்று இப்படி முதலாளிகள் செய்கிறார்கள். அத்துடன் சர்க்கார் **Maternity Benefit Act** என்ற சட்டத்தை இயற்றி அமுலுக்கு வந்தபின் பெண்கள் கர்ப்பகாலத்தில் சம்பளம் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் மில் முதலாளிகள் ஒழுங்காய்க் கொடுக்கிறதில்லை. இதை உத்தேசித்து அஹிம்ஸா தர்மத்தோடு வேலை நிறுத்தம் ஏற்படுத்தினால், என்ன செய்கிறார்கள் முதலாளிகள்? போலீஸாருக்கும் மேல் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் லஞ்சம் கொடுத்து ஏமாற்றிப் புரளி பண்ணுகிறார்கள். பெரிய பணக்காரர்கள் லஞ்சம் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். போலீஸார் வாங்குகிறார்கள் இதை **proof** பண்ணச் சொன்னால், லஞ்சம் வாங்குகிறதை எப்படி **proof** பண்ணுகிறது? மில் முதலாளிகளுடன் போலீஸார் சேர்ந்து தொழிலாளர் வர்க்கத்தை பாழ்படுத்துகிறார்கள். ஒரு வேலை நிறுத்தம் ஏற்பட்டால் கடைக்காரர்களிடத்தில் முதலாளிகள் சொல்லித் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சாமான் கொடுக்காதபடி செய்கிறார்கள் பணத்தைக் கொடுத்து விட்டுப்போகும்படி கஷ்டப்படுத்தச் செய்கிறார்கள் அவர்கள் வாடகைக்கு இருக்கிற வீடுகளிலிருந்து காலி செய்யும்படி வீட்டுக்காரர்களுக்குச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். காலி செய்யாவிட்டால் சாமான்களைத் தூக்கி வெளியே வீசி எறிகிறார்கள் இதை நாம் பார்க்கிறோம். நான் தொழிலாளியாக இருந்து இந்த கஷ்ட நஷ்டங்களைக் கண்ணார அனுபவித்திருக்கிறேன். இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட நெருக்கடியான நிலைமையைப்போக்கத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்காகச் சட்டம் உடனே சர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும்.

“ மில்லில் வேலைசெய்யும்போது கைகால் போய் வேலைக்கு லாயக் இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய **Compensation** கொடுக்க வேண்டியதற்கும் சட்டத்தில் ஒரு விதி ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டும். ஏற்கெனவே **Compensation** க்காக **Workmen's Compensation Act** இருந்தாலும் அதன் பிரகாரம் **Compensation** தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேலை செய்யும்போது அபாயம் ஏற்பட்டுக் கைகால் போய்விட்டால் கொடுக்கிறதில்லை.

“ தொழிலாளர்கள் சங்கங்களை அங்கீகரிக்கிறதில்லை. தொழிலாளர்கள் ஒற்றுமையாக இருந்தால், அவர்களுக்குள் குடியானவன், நாய்க்கன், கவுண்டன், என்ற ஜாதித் துவேஷத்தை உண்டாக்கி, அவர்களுடைய ஒற்றுமையைக் குலைத்து, சங்கங்களை நசுக்கப் பார்க்கிறார்கள். வெள்ளைக்காரர்களிடத்தில் பழகிய நம் தேச மில் முதலாளிகள் ஆதிக்கம் தொழிலாளர்கள்மேல் செலுத்துகிறதைப் பார்த்தால், வெள்ளைக்கார முதலாளிகள் செலுத்தும் ஆதிக்கத்திலும் ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் தொழிலாளர்கள் நிலைமை இன்னும் மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமாயிருக்கிறது. இந்தக் காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கம் தொழிலாளர்களுக்குச் சாதகமாக இருக்கிறதைப் பார்த்து முதலாளி வர்க்கத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் இதை ஒழித்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று தீவிரமாகப் பாடுபட்டுக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். நமது முதன் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கோயமுத்தூருக்கு விஜயஞ் செய்தபோது தொழிலாளர்களிடையே இருக்கும் காங்கிரஸ் அபிமானத்தைப் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆண்களும் பெண்களும் திரள் திரளாக காந்தி குல்லா அணிந்துகொண்டு வந்ததைப் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள். காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் பெரிதும் நம்பியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனதினால் காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கம் இப்படிப்பட்ட

28th March 1939] [Sri N. G. Ramaswami Nayudu]

சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் தொழிலாளர் சட்டத்தை உடனே இயற்றவேண்டும், அந்தச் சட்டத்தின் மூலம் லேபர் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள், பாக்டரி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் வேலைக்குப் பெண்களை நியமிக்கவேண்டும். **Strike** ஏற்பட்டு அடிதடி ஏற்பட்டு சர்க்கார் தலையிடுவது என்பது கூடாது. புகைச்சல் தொழிலாளர்களிடையே இருப்பதை தெரிந்தவுடனே தலையிடவேண்டும். முதலிலேயே, தொழிலாளர்கள் முதலாளிகள் சச்சரவு இருக்கிறதென்பதைத் தெரிந்தவுடனேயே, தலையிட்டுத் தீர்க்கவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய பொறுப்பென்று நாங்கள் தாழ்மையுடன் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறோம்.

"இது மாத்திரமல்ல; இன்னும் முதலாளிகள் பலவிதமான ஹிம்சைகளைப் பற்றிச் சொல்லுகிறேன். **Court of Enquiry** வைத்து அதிகப்படியான சம்பளங்கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொன்ன பிறபாடுங்கூட முதலாளிகள் என்ன செய்கிறார்களென்றால் கிராமாந்தரங்களிலிருக்கும் குடியானவர்களை இழுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்து கம்மியான சம்பளத்திற்கு வேலைக்கு வருகிறோம் என்று சொல்லும்படி செய்கிறார்கள். அந்த ஆட்களை நியமித்துப் பழைய ஆட்கள், வெளியில் நிற்கிறவர்களைக், கம்மியான சம்பளத்திற்குக் கையெழுத்துப் போடச்செய்கிறார்கள்.

"சென்ற ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு முன் ஒரு பெரிய வேலை நிறுத்தம் திருப்பூரில் ஏற்பட்டது. நமது சுகாதார மந்திரி அவர்களும் தொழிலாளர் மந்திரி அவர்களும் அங்கு வந்து பார்த்தார்கள். அந்த இடத்தில் தொழிலாளர்கள் எவ்வளவோ அஹிம்ஸா தர்மத்துடனிருந்தார்கள். மறியல் என்பது கிடையாது வேறெந்த ஆபாசமுங்கிடையாது. முதலாளிகள் என்னென்னவோ சூழ்ச்சி செய்தார்கள். புது ஆட்களை உள்ளே கொண்டுபோக நினைத்தார்கள்; புது ஆட்களுக்கும் நாங்கள் பிச்சையெடுத்து சாப்பாடு போட்டோம். ஒரு புது ஆள்கூட உள்ளே போகவில்லை. முதலாளிகள் பார்த்தார்கள்; வேறு வகையில்லை என்று சமரசத்திற்கு வந்தார்கள். புது ஆட்களைக்கொண்டு போகிறது ரகளை உண்டாக்குகிறது. குண்டர்களைக்கொண்டு வெளியிலிருந்து அவர்களையில் மேல கல்லெடுத்துப் போடச் செய்து அதைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் போட்டதாகப் போலீஸுக்குத் தெரிவித்து லாத்தி சார்ஜ் செய்யும்படி முதலாளிகள் செய்கிறார்கள்.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, very vigorous speeches have been made involving not only the policy of the Government with regard to the disputes between industry and labour, but also with regard to the action taken by the Government for the preservation of law and order in that connexion. I do not wish to go into a justification of what has been done from the point of view of law and order, but I wish to offer a few remarks, so that the policy of the Government might well be understood in this respect both by employers and by workmen.

"Mr. Sarma was kind enough to state that it would be the height of injustice to complain that we have not done all that we could possibly do and that really the Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries has been trying to do his best to help labour. This statement of his is frank and straight; but he finds fault with me for having paid an one-sided compliment to the management, which might perhaps mislead some people. The passage he refers to is that which is printed on page 11 of my Budget speech. I would repeat, Sir, that I stand by what I have said in that part of my speech and I wish hon. Members who may have any doubt

[*Sri C. Rajagopalachariar*] [*28th March 1939*

or difficulty in regard to the meaning, to read those passages again and I shall not take up the time of the House now by reading them; but I maintain that there, in giving my compliment to the reasonableness on the part of the management, I have not done any injustice to labour or to the workmen. If the language I have used is properly understood, I claim on behalf of the Government that we have done remarkably well in the settlement of disputes and I paid a compliment to the reasonableness on the part of the managements in enabling us to do what we had done. I can understand the managements making a grievance of this statement; I can understand the managements reading in it a slight insinuation that they have not been complimented sufficiently; they could complain; they could imagine in it an insinuation that generally they are unreasonable and it is only now that they have been reasonable. I want hon. Members to see the actual meaning of what I have said. It does not put on labour any unreasonableness. On the contrary, let me explain the real situation. Hon. Members speaking on behalf of labour should not ignore the obvious character of this Government; they should not ignore that the whole world takes us to be representing labour more than employment, labour more than capital. What is the use of ignoring the obvious? Hon. Members who speak on behalf of labour should start with this background. They should know that this Government is charged primarily with a bias in favour of labour. Therefore working on behalf of labour, our primary effort, our greatest effort, should be to secure the confidence of the management. Otherwise, we shall not be able to take even one step or achieve even one success in the settlement of disputes.

30 "Therefore, it is I say that I shall be grateful to the spirit
m. of reasonableness displayed on the part of the management whenever we entered the field for the settlement of disputes. I want hon. Members on both sides to understand the difficulties of our situation. Hon. Members on behalf of labour should particularly understand that it is very difficult for us to secure the confidence of the employers, because we are identified with labour and to secure their trust is difficult; and to the extent that we secure it, hon. Members should be glad that we have secured it. If there is a general belief amongst the employers that we are the friends of capitalists, they should welcome that general belief. That general belief should be welcome more by labour than by anybody else, for we shall be able to achieve more from that confidence than we can achieve by complete partisanship on the one side or the other.

"I wish to say this in reply to what Mr. Subba Rao said as well as to what Mr. Sarma said. Mr. Subba Rao began with a wholesale misunderstanding of what I said; but Mr. Sarma has given a modified understanding of the situation with regard to what I said, and I want to complete it so that there may be no

misunderstanding in regard to this matter. I once again repeat that it is only to the extent that this Government is looked upon as their friends by the capitalists that we shall be able to achieve anything that we want to achieve for labour. I can understand revolution and I can understand the whole of production being placed in the hands of labour and I can understand ignoring completely those who are now called capitalists; but so long as this capitalist system of production is prevailing here, we have to secure the confidence of those who command capital in order that we may secure the just rights of labour. To the extent that we have achieved that, I claim that we have done well and for that I want not only hon. Members but even the workmen to recognize the spirit of reasonableness that has so far been displayed on the part of the employers. I do not want any hon. Member of this House to go away with the impression that we have obtained an one-sided settlement or that we have not recognized the reasonableness of the demands of labour.

"Another point was raised by Mr. Subba Rao that it was wrong for the Government to make a clear pronouncement saying that stay-in-strikes, gate-blocking in the name of picketing are all wrong. I have no hesitation in saying once again that they are all wrong and so long as these things are indulged in, we shall not be able to help labour to the extent we desire; we shall not be able to achieve for labour a better position. I do not want to leave anything vague. I want to make it perfectly clear that what is called stay-in-strike, that is to say, the forcible occupation of the grounds and the open spaces of the premises around the machinery and refusing to leave the place, is merely a matter of non-violence and nothing less than that. It is not non-violence if you stand at the gate preventing ingress and egress and it cannot be non-violence if you obtain forcible occupation of the premises and refuse to move off; we cannot be a party to it. If that is not done, it is asked, how can we prevent black-legs getting into our place and how can we prevent our friends or others from getting in? That only shows that they who practise such methods have no belief in the methods of non-violence and that they have no belief in persuasion and in the strength of their own cause, and they have no confidence in their own men. It means that they start with the assumption that unless physically prevented others will go in and render the strike useless. That I think is displaying want of confidence. I want to earnestly advise labour that without doing those things, without taking to stay-in-strikes, without picketing and standing at the gate preventing the necessary services being rendered and indulging in actions by means of which there is a likelihood of the machines being spoilt, without the physical occupation of the premises, without all this, labour can win its battles if their cause is just. I want, therefore, that labour would help us in this declaration of policy and in the

execution of that policy. Till recently these strikes were unknown —I mean the stay-in-strikes. But recently these things have started; perhaps they were copied from the West where non-violence is not taught either by a leader like Gandhiji or even pretended to be practised by anybody. Mr. Subba Rao said that it had not been declared illegal in other provinces. I do not want to refer to other provinces at all. It does not matter if they have not declared it illegal; they will reap the consequences of that action and then they will come round to what we have done and say that that was the correct position to take up. I promise that that will happen and we need not go upon that precedent. But so far as we are concerned, Gandhiji himself has declared it to be illegal and that is enough for us.

" Apart from this, I want to reason that matter out with friends. They say that it is possible to deal with the matter without declaring these things illegal. I want to know whether the forcible occupation of the premises and refusal to leave the place come under the definition of collective bargaining. If I go to a shop and say that until a certain thing is given for a certain price I would continue to occupy the place and shall not leave the place, I am not allowing free bargaining; there is no voluntary character about it; it becomes forcible occupation. If the labourers are not satisfied with the conditions of service and if they feel that justice should be done, they can approach the management and tell them that unless a certain thing is done, the management will lose their services; and the management can at times say that labour will lose their wages if they do not agree to the management's terms. If the rest of the labour world says that this is reasonable, then there is a straight win for labour; if it is not so, they lose. This is the bargaining that is involved in a strike and the violence that is involved in these things is wholly contrary to this bargaining. I want to tell hon. Members that stopping at the gate, completely making a human wall, or, worse still, to lie down across the car at the point of causing the other party to commit murder, is not non-violence. You want to read the meaning of non-violence merely in a technical manner and in the negative manner in the procedure that you wish to follow. If we follow these methods we shall never succeed.

" I want to say this quite clearly, particularly for another reason. Hon. Members have been saying that the Police should not come rushing for defending the employers. They do not rush in. Picketing should be conducted peacefully if it is to be permitted. If picketing is not peaceful or is not likely to be so, it has to be attended to and non-peaceful picketing has to be stopped. If labour leaders guarantee to the Government that no kind of non-peaceful picketing will be permitted, if we had the assurance from labour leaders that only peaceful picketing will

be done, I guarantee on behalf of the Government that no policeman will be there. We must deal with each other fairly and justly and it is not right to demand that there should be no policeman when the labour leaders are not able to assure us that the picketing will always be peaceful. Let the labour leaders guarantee to the Government that wherever there is a strike, there will be no wrong done, there will be no human wall, that there will be no forceful occupation, that there will be no abuse and that there will be no bad language, let them guarantee with their heads, if I may use a rude expression, that no such things will be allowed and that they look to persuasion for the settlement of the disputes, then I shall say that there will be no necessity for the policeman. But you want us to do the impossible. Men say that they will lie down, that they will stop there till they get what they desire and the management agree to their terms and that we are not entitled to do anything more than arrest them. I say that it becomes civil disobedience of the Government orders and civil disobedience of the laws of the country and not against your employers. For each man two or three policemen should be detailed for bodily removing him from the place and placing him under arrest, and at that rate for every twenty-five men engaging in that sort of thing, seventy-five men will be required for removing them peacefully one after another; and then another set of twenty-five men come in and another body of policemen will be required to remove them and so on and the whole thing becomes an impossibility. That is why I say that we ought to be reasonable on both sides. We should be guaranteed that this wrong form of picketing will not be indulged in and then the work of the Government will become easy and there is no necessity to employ the policeman anywhere. But so long as there is danger of picketing becoming non-peaceful owing to want of confidence, or anger on account of the passions of the moment—day after day the strike produces more and more passions—so long as picketing ceases to be peaceful, we have to be there to preserve order. I, therefore, do not hesitate to say that the policemen ought to be there and are bound to be there till we achieve success through non-violent means and this will take some time to achieve. I do not blame the labour leaders for not being able to accomplish what we have been able to achieve in other fields but I do not want them to claim the impossible from the Government. It is possible for both sides to make mistakes; but we must not expect the impossible from the Government. This is what I wish to say in regard to the policy adopted by the Government with regard to the strikes.

" Let me remind hon. Members that even in the very statement that was referred to by hon. Members I have said that—

' Signs are not wanting that these aberrations will soon disappear, being fundamentally opposed to the genius and culture of our people and

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more and more of the leaders are realizing the need for a truer form of non-violent tactics as being ultimately the most effective and the necessity at least as things stand at present, for fostering a feeling of security and confidence in the minds of industrialists and the general public.'

As long as we have this system by which both capital and labour play a part in production, is it not necessary for us to secure trust and confidence on both sides? It is absolutely necessary. If you do not take care in time—I want hon. friends to take note of this, more especially the labour leaders—and if before we are able to introduce and establish a newer and better economic order in our country, we proceed in the manner in which we have been proceeding, it leads altogether to want of confidence in capital; and what will result is greater and greater unemployment in the country; it will not be possible to keep so many men at work even so far as we have been able to do at present and I should be sorry to see men remaining unemployed. Supposing the management feels that we have not helped them sufficiently or justly or that labour has not co-operated properly, what will happen? The industry will be closed and unemployment will result. I know that there is a school of economic philosophy which wants this state of things so that there may be revolution and chaos and so that through chaos and revolution they can bring about a classless society. I know the labour leaders are not of that opinion and I therefore pray for co-operation on the part of labour leaders and a little more courage. I should not be misunderstood when I ask for courage. I want that the labour leaders should stand up against even their own following and tell them as to what is right. They should not hesitate to say to their followers if they persist in a certain course, 'This is wrong; this will not take you to success;' and if only they say so, I who know the psychology of the poor people of this country, am sure that I can guarantee to them greater loyalty on the part of the workmen. They will not misunderstand such courage and straight talk and they will respect the action of the labour leaders. Sir, I have explained my position and it is difficult for me to submit to a policy which will involve violence of any kind."

15 MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister will briefly reply on
m. points not covered by the Hon. Premier."

* THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of the House for more than a few minutes. I appreciate the speech of my hon. Friend, Mr. Town, and with most of the points that he has referred to I agree. But at the same time I would tell him that trade unionism is in its infancy. Bad leadership may be avoided if the employer is tactful and wise and helps to encourage good leadership. And therefore, Sir, trade unionism is the only remedy for all evils which he has attacked. He said that courts of enquiries have awarded things to workers which the workers themselves never asked. I do not know where

he got that information. I assure him they have not awarded anything of the sort; and even if they have awarded that, they did not do so through the instrument of Government.

" Mr. Krishnamachariar referred to the Planning Committee. And I would tell him that we are not bound down by the directions of the Planning Committee. The Planning Committee is to make recommendations and it is left to us to accept that advice or not. If the recommendations are good to the country we will put them to force. I can assure him that the development industries in this Province will not be delayed till the Planning Committee has finished its labours and submitted its report. I only said that it would be useful to rely on its recommendations, as it would be saying what kind of industries it would be beneficial to start and in which part of the country.

" So far as cottage industries are concerned, we are giving a fillip to it as far as possible. I can assure Mr. Krishnamachariar, that similar investigations are made about the possibility of starting small industries like picture-framing, sand-paper making, malt foods, flavour essences, hand-pounded rice and so on. We have investigated these matters, and I assure hon. Members all that is necessary will be done.

" I do not wish to repeat what the Hon. Premier has said. But I do wish to say only a few words and I shall finish what I have to say in two minutes. I speak here not merely as the Minister of Industries, which position I have occupied for the last 21 months; I speak as one who has worked for the cause of labour for the last two decades. I was myself a labour leader; I have myself conducted mass strikes; I want to say this to the labour leaders; they should be very strong in telling bad leaders that strikes do not pay; such strikes will not be useful; and that they will merely put workers in the wrong. I am not saying this because I am now in the comfortable position of Minister and therefore I can say anything that I like. I have told workers without fear or favour that strikes will not pay; I have condemned strikes before them, and they have carried out my advice. So long as we believe in non-violence we should avoid these strikes and staying-in-strikes. I have said and done this even as a labour leader, and I have prevented such strikes. I want, therefore, my good friends, young labour leaders, to be strong and tell their comrades that strikes are not desirable. Strikes are certainly not the only weapon in the hands of workers. It is their inherent right. At the same time I must say that strikes should not be resorted to unless workers carry public opinion behind them. So long as their demands are just and reasonable, so long as public opinion is behind them and so long as employers are in the wrong strikes are bound to succeed. No strong picketing is necessary. Therefore in the interests of real trade unionism, in the interests of orderly trade unionism—I am myself a worker in the cause of

trade unionism—I appeal to all members of labour in the House and to all leaders of labour in general to strongly advise the workers to avoid these strikes and base their action on non-violence. So long as their cause is just they are bound to succeed.

" Many other points have been referred to by hon. Members, and I thank them for their suggestions and they will be considered. I request Mr. Town to withdraw the cut motion, if he so desires."

The cut motion, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—FISHERIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think one hour will be sufficient for this Demand."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,76,100 under Demand XXII—Fisheries.'

" Sir, as desired by you, I would like to make a preliminary statement on the policy of the present Government in this direction. Sir, on our assuming office we found there were proposals either to abolish the Fisheries Department or in the alternative to merge the activities of this department with the other existing departments. A thorough examination was undertaken, as a result of which Government have come to the conclusion to re-organize the whole department. We considered a special department was absolutely essential to deal with the vast and important fishery industries of the Presidency. Fisheries are not only an important source of food but also of manure and require years of continuous study, experiment, stimulus and assistance before they can be developed on a sound basis. The principal objects of this department are, first, to have an increase of food-supply. The chief defect in the diet of the masses in India, according to experts, is the lack of the body building element (protein) and fish provides it in the cheapest and the most readily available and assimilable form. The most important source of fish is the sea. The efforts made in the development of deep-sea fishing I shall deal shortly. As regards inland waters, the department has resumed the fishery rights in tanks, rivers, etc., in some 21 districts of the Presidency and these waters are regularly stocked with improved varieties of edible fish. To supply fish fry to these waters, fish farms were established at seven places at Praema and Sunkesula in the Kurnool district, at Ippur and Mopad in the Nellore district, at Chingleput and Vellore Fort moats and at Madras. The fish farms at Mopad and Praema have now been ordered to be closed, the fisheries of the Mopad being leased and the breeding of the larvicidal fish in the Praema farm

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being attended to hereafter by the Forest Department. The function of these farms is to breed suitable varieties of edible fish for distribution to the adjoining provincialized waters.

"Improved methods of preserving fish devised at the experimental station at Tanur have been introduced into the industry thus ensuring for the consumer a better article of diet and for the producer a better class and more extensive market. In order to encourage the fish-curing industry duty-free salt is distributed to the fish-curers. Proposals for the opening of fish-curing yards are entertained subject to the conditions that the curers concerned should undertake to reimburse to Government the loss, if any, incurred in the working of the yards, to deposit in advance adequate security and to execute a bond making themselves jointly and severally liable to make good the loss.

"Refrigeration being the only method available for keeping and distributing fish fresh, an inexpensive method of freezing fish in ordinary ice plants suited to the low priced local market, which was devised, has been adopted by one or two private factories.

"The fish oil and guano industry which has given rise to 647 private factories since 1910 on the West Coast and is now worth over half a crore of rupees in good years and about ten lakhs on an average annually owes its existence almost entirely to the research conducted by the department.

"An allied industry which has assumed considerable importance in the Western countries since the War is the manufacture of fish meal for farm stock, and this has also been initiated in South India. Fish meal manufactured in South India now finds a sale all over India and Burma.

"The possibility of providing an efficient but cheap substitute for medicinal cod liver oil has been discovered by a vitamin survey of South India fish oils. The lack of vitamin 'A' being a vital problem in the proper nutrition of the masses, the discovery may prove of great economic and dietic importance. Of the oils tested during 1936–37 the oil of a man-eating shark and a skate have proved to be most potent, and the vitamin content of shark liver oil manufactured by the Fisheries Department is ten times more than that of cod liver oil. The latest method of extracting the oil under village conditions is proposed to be demonstrated to the fishermen in the fishing villages. The scheme submitted by the Director of Fisheries in this connexion will be put in force after the budget is passed by the Legislature.

"The unorganized state of the trade in fish and fish products received the attention of the department on account of the economic distress among fishermen and curers. A system has been devised by which the ruling prices in the different markets of the Presidency are published weekly for the information of the fish trader.

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" The next object of Government is the education of fisher children. There are 42 schools for the fisher children, and these schools are attended by not less than 4,220 fisher children during the year 1937–38, and these fisheries schools are maintained by the department.

" As the only suppliers of Indian Biological specimens of direct educational value to schools, colleges and museums all over India and Burma and by means of the Madras Marine Aquarium—the only institution of its kind in the East—the department gives a great stimulus to the study of Natural History, an element which has been lacking in the educational system of the country. The present building in which the Aquarium is housed has, however, not been found satisfactory and the question of erecting a new building will be considered in 1940–41.

.m. " The next object of this department is the improvement of the moral and material condition of the fisher folk. One of the duties of the Fisheries department has been to bring about the uplift of the fishermen community by means of education and the formation of co-operative societies. Since 1934, the officers of the department have been working in collaboration with the Co-operative Department in starting new societies among fishermen and in supervising them. At the close of the year 1937–38 there were 48 societies on the West Coast and 21 societies on the East Coast. The general tone of the societies has greatly improved and the fisher folk are becoming well disposed towards co-operation. The officers of the department are also doing a great deal of social service among the fishermen to wean them from habits of intemperance, extravagance, etc., and it is gratifying to note that the drink evil among the fishermen has now diminished considerably.

" The next object of the Government is to carry on the anti-malarial operations. The breeding of mosquito-destroying fish, an accepted method of combating malaria, has been undertaken by the department with satisfactory results in a number of localities. To mention one instance, in the notorious malarial tract—the Nallamalais in the Kurnool district—springs have been annually stocked by the department since 1915. An investigation to ascertain the efficacy of the stocking operations has shown a marked decrease in the incidence of malaria.

" Sir, in the Assembly several questions have been asked in regard to the reduction of issue price of salt. The object of the curing yards is the encouragement of the curing industry by preventing the loss which might accrue to the fishing classes by their having to purchase duty-paid salt and by avoiding the injurious effect of supplying badly cured fish to the general consuming public. Salt is issued duty free, but to meet other expenses involved in the running of these yards, the Provincial Government sell this duty-free salt to the curers at rates fixed from time to time. These prices have varied from place to place

and from year to year in the past. Originally in 1892 the price per maund of this salt was only 12 annas. In the year 1917, a uniform rate of 10 annas for all the yards both on the East and the West Coasts was sanctioned. Though this involved a slight increase in some of the yards, the loss to the Government continued and became very heavy. This loss continued until the end of 1923–24, when the present rate of Re. 1-4-0 was fixed on the transference of these yards to the control of the Fisheries Department. Subsequent to 1916, attempts were made thrice to increase the price of salt issued so as to ward off the recurrent loss to Government, but the Government did not find it expedient to increase the price. Government specifically ordered that the yards should work on a self-supporting basis. These fish-curing yards were maintained by the Salt Department but they have been under the control of the Fisheries Department since 1924. This transfer synchronized with an increase in issue price of salt from 10 annas a maund to Re. 1-4-0 a maund. This doubling of the price was resorted to, to minimize the losses that had been occurring to Government for a long time anterior to the date of transfer. Subsequent to the transfer, the yards have been working in most of the years at a loss until 1933–34. The profit was Rs. 59,600 in 1934–35, Rs. 94,706 in 1935–36, Rs. 45,375 in 1936–37 and Rs. 34,108 in 1937–38. Though there has been a profit in the working of the fish-curing yards during the last four years, the profit is on the decline since 1935–36. Sir, the Government have asked the Director of Fisheries whether in the interests of the Fisheries Department the price could be reduced and we are expecting a reply from the Director and on receipt of his reply the Government will consider whether they can reduce the price of salt still further.

" Another point has been raised as regards the activities of the Government in regard to deep-sea fishing. I have stated on the floor of the House, Sir, the history as to chartering a vessel from England and how it was not working in our waters. At present the Director is negotiating with a Japanese firm for chartering a trawler for conducting deep-sea fishing experiments and necessary steps will be taken on receipt of detailed proposals from him. It may be added that the method of exploitation available to a nation like the English or the Japanese cannot be commanded by a subordinate Government like the Provincial Government operating under political and financial limitations.

" The other point, Sir, is there has been a question that this department is a costly one and there was need for drastic retrenchment to be undertaken. I may tell that the Government have had under consideration the future of the Fisheries Department and the possibility of effecting economies in expenditure incurred in its administration. They have decided in January last that the department should continue as a separate entity as at present.

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As regards reduction in expenditure, the Government have passed the following orders: One post of lower division clerk and one post of typist in the office of the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Inland) have been abolished. The fish farms at Mopad and Praema have been ordered to be closed and the fishermen and six watchers employed on them abolished. The fisheries of the Mopad will be leased and the stocking operations hitherto carried on there will be continued at a central place by the Assistant Inspector and one watchman. The breeding of the larvicidal fish in the Praema farm will be attended to hereafter by the Forest Department. The staff employed on the Sunkesula farm is to be reduced to a minimum. The post of Assistant Director of Fisheries (Coast) has been abolished and in its place a new post of Sub-Assistant Director of Fisheries has been created on Rs. 65 to Rs. 190. The Tanur Research Station has been closed and the Research Assistant transferred to West Hill where he will continue the work under the supervision of the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Biology). The Pearl and Chank Section has been entrusted with the salt transport work and the temporary staff consisting of one Inspector of Fisheries, one clerk and a peon hitherto employed for eight months in a year for this work has been discontinued. The post of Research Assistant attached to the Ennore station has been abolished. The Government have also under consideration the following proposals for reducing the expenditure further—Reduction in the ministerial establishment of the Director's office to the barest minimum necessary, reduction of the staff employed on the Sunkesula fish farm to a minimum, abolition of the Ippur fish farm after a year, abolition of the post of clerk under the former Research Assistant at Tanur, retransfer to district boards of such tanks and water-courses taken over by the Fisheries Department on payment of compensation as do not yield good rentals and contain water for less than eight months in a year, disposal of one of the three boats now at Tuticorin and the hiring of a third boat from the Port Trust, if required, during the seasons, payment of a subsidy by the Madras University towards the maintenance of the Krusadai Biological station, the fees now levied for the visits of the students being foregone, hiring of a boat from the Public Works Department whenever required in the Godavari in connexion with the Hilsa hatchery operations instead of the Fisheries Department maintaining a house boat for the purpose, and closure of uneconomical fish-curing yards on the East Coast. The Director has been asked to examine the above questions and to submit a report to Government in the near future.

" Sir, questions were raised in this House whether it was possible to transfer the schools under the management of the Fisheries Department to the Education Department. Careful investigations were made and finally we have come to the conclusion that it will not be in the interests either of the Fisheries

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Department or of the Education Department to effect the change. So the Government have finally decided that the Fisheries schools must continue under the Fisheries Department. I may say, Sir, the question of clearly defining the relationship between the Fisheries and the Education Departments is being investigated at the present moment.

"There was a question, Sir, as to the need for the Inspector of Fisheries in the Nilgiris. After my recent visit to this place the department have decided to transfer a Research Assistant to Mettur. There he will be supervising both the fish conservancy work in the Bhavani and also the Moyar in the Nilgiris. Some representations have been made to the Government by the Baratha community in Tuticorin and other places for the establishment of a Fisheries School. The Government are considering this question as to whether it will be advantageous to start a Fisheries School of this sort. Sir, I might also invite the attention of the Members of this House to the Director's report that has been placed by the Government in their hands, especially the review of the Government in regard to the pearly fishery. With these words, Sir, I move the Demand."

* MR. D. M. REID:—'Mr Speaker, I beg to move the cut motion under my name, viz.,—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 5,76,100 *for Fisheries be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"Owing to the very brief time fixed by you for this Demand, I will give a short and condensed speech. From the speech which we have just heard we may hope that the Hon. Minister will consider most seriously the fourteen points of my speech which I shall give in ten minutes. I hope that my brevity will not detract from the force of my arguments points which, I respectfully say, should normally take much longer.

"I shall stress firstly the great importance of the fisheries and the need for a continuous and active policy and not retrenchment. Secondly, I deplore the cheese-paring, narrow-minded policy apparently pursued by the previous Government. This department must not be starved.

"As the Hon. Minister said there is an urgent need for fish to feed the Indian masses. I shall mention the food values. The average villager is half-starved. He needs Protein, Fat and Vitamin A. He cannot get enough milk. He must have fish to make up the deficiency in necessary food values, to make up the entire number of calories. The average villager gets to-day only about 1,600 or exactly 1,644 calories. For six hours hard work he needs 2,600 calories. He is getting only 1,600 calories while he needs 2,600 calories. He is half-starved. Even well-to-do villagers get an average of only 2,400 calories. Something must urgently be done about this. The Indian fish supply is capable

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of immediate and great expansion as shown by the Government reports which I have been very carefully studying. I am sure that the Government will actively encourage curing, and preserving by, salt, smoke or canning all round the coast. This can be done successfully as the Government have shown by their reports.

"I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the good trade in dried fish with Ceylon, Malaya, and Burma and even with China and Japan in special fish such as Bonito and Beche-de-Mar. That is an industry worth following up very carefully.

"Fish oils are successfully made on the West Coast. The Hon. Minister mentioned 647 factories. A very notable figure, all presumably modelled on the Government factory at Tanur, I think. These factories work, I understand, in the years when sardines are numerous. Some work every year. Fish oil is most valuable and particularly for cattle. I hope that the Government will take every step to promote prosperity in these factories.

6-15 p.m. "I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the canneries which were killed by foreign competition during post-war years, by the United States of America and Japan. Since then Rs. 3 lakhs have been invested in a private cannery, so I understand, near Calicut which is actively progressing. Government should help and encourage all canneries.

"I do not see that this subject has aroused much interest in hon. Members of the House, as shown by the very few members who took the trouble of listening to the very interesting speech of the Hon. Minister. At the same time very few people take the trouble to bother themselves with the poverty and the starvation of our people in South India and what the Ministry is trying to do. Mr. Speaker, do you see the efforts of the Hon. Minister to interest the House, to interest the Speaker in this most important question? And, do you, Mr. Speaker, see the importance of the matter and the efforts being taken by this gentleman on this subject? If you take up the language question or some such thing the House sits up and listens carefully. But if you take up things like this, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of the honourable gentlemen there, the Minister and his Secretary trying to do something in the face of this criticism and apathy, then the House is not listening. I appeal to the House to take this question seriously.

"Now, with regard to deep-sea fishing I would like to say that the ground trawl is of no use, and that there is a great need for Seine and American Purse nets. I say it is a most important industry and we must have the American nets. I will ask the Minister, 'Has he any plan in view for sending a student to America where he can best learn tropical fishing?' I am afraid the Minister has not, because he has not been given the

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money nor the opportunity to do it. Have we sent any student to America to study tropical fishing—to the United States of America? Mexico, Florida and the West Indies are the places where tropical fishing is most intensively studied. Have we got here any expert from the United States of America who knows tropical fishing? I do not think so. Why not? I suggest, let him do it. Let the House not consider in this connexion questions of race or colour because whatever his colour may be we should try, in all fairness, to get what we can from him.

"The next point I wish to touch on is fishing education. The Calicut Fisheries Training Institute was, I understand, providing teachers for Fisheries elementary classes. I understand it was closed down by the previous Government as a measure of retrenchment. Why do we retrench, I ask, things that are so important and spend lakhs of money on things that are unimportant? There were twelve to fifteen students going out every year for learning This retrograde policy, I trust, will not be followed by the present Government.

"I am very glad to hear from the Hon. Minister that the Technological Training Institute for Fisheries is required at Tuticorin and that it has his sympathy. Ten thousand rupees have been collected by the people of Tuticorin and a free building is being given. I trust that the Government will seriously consider this question and extend their support to this institute.

"With regard to the Aquarium I am very glad to hear that the Hon. Minister intends to do something for it. In the monsoon it is under water. In 1938 we had so little rains but in the last ordinary monsoon (1937) it was heavily under water. I hope that the necessary repairs *will be done at least before 1940–41.* Our Acquarium is famous all over the world. It is a glory of Madras. It will be a shame if this Aquarium is not repaired.

"Now I wish to touch upon a very important subject and I trust that the Hon. Minister will understand that I am imputing nothing against anybody. I understand that the present Director of Industries will soon retire. Who will follow him? Have we considered that question? We want the best man to do the job and it does not matter where he comes from. I trust the Minister will understand that I have no axe to grind in this matter. We need a competent man who can teach something and I suggest he should be an American. We should have an American with real knowledge of tropical fishing. I would ask the Hon. Minister to see what Orissa is doing. That is a bankrupt province and yet it has a man now being trained for the post of chief official for one year of intensive training under the present chief official and then he will be sent to the United States of America for two years, so I understand. That is an alternative for the Government to consider and I suggest that one of these two

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things must be done if we are going to have a proper Fisheries Department. I hope the Hon. the Prime Minister will consider that very carefully.

"I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that I have taken eleven minutes though I said I would finish in ten minutes. But I trust the Hon. Minister will very carefully consider these points."

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I am thankful to Mr. Reid for the very useful points he has mentioned. I may say that for achieving our policy there is no objection to get people from any country of any colour. It is the object of this Government to put the Fisheries Department on a fair and sound basis. We have a few Assistant Directors who already have been to England and other countries to study fisheries. When the present Director of Fisheries retires, I may tell him, Sir, that we have Assistants to take the place and carry on the work equally well. Recently it was necessary for the Government of Bengal to take an Assistant Director of Fisheries from this department to organize their Fisheries Department and even some of the Indian States have called our men to reorganize the Fisheries Department in their States. So I may straightaway tell my hon. Friend that we have a few Indian Assistant Directors who will be quite capable of taking the place of the retiring Director."

MR. D. M. REID:—"Have they been to America?"

* THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"They have been to England and Japan. I take the information from my hon. Friend, Mr. Reid, that tropical fishing is at its zenith in America and when finances improve, certainly we will see what we can do to train our own men in these quarters. He referred to the 647 private factories. It is true, Sir, that these 647 factories are held by private individuals. If there are more who wish to take up this industry there is the State Aid to Industries Act which admits of aid to the people anxious to undertake such an industry. He also referred to the fact that some of the people wish to have a Technological Training Institute to be started in Tuticorin. It is true, Sir, that they are prepared to place Rs. 10,000 at the disposal of the Government to give scholarships to some of their own students. But, so far, they have not placed any building at the disposal of the Government. But the present Government are in communication with the Collector of the district and through him also with the Port Trust authorities there whether it will be possible for us to take over some of the buildings which are of no use to the Port Trust at the present moment. I think these are all the points raised and I have tried to answer all of them. If there be any other points which I have not touched upon, those points will also certainly receive the attention of the Government."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I beg to move, Sir,

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,34,800 under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments.*' "

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 21,34,800 for Miscellaneous Departments be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

" Sir, while speaking on this motion I will confine my remarks to the portion relating to the work of the depressed classes and the policy of the Government towards the amelioration of the condition of the community. The Hon. the Prime Minister while replying to the general discussion of the budget referred to page 379 of the budget. When I spoke on the general debate I also referred to the figures on page 379 and I placed before the House the fact that the present Government have not done anything over and above the last year's budget. But the Hon. the Prime Minister said that they have given a considerable amount of grant under this head for the education of the depressed classes in the next year's budget. It is not so. And then, he goes on quoting that in the year 1937–38 he set apart a sum of Rs. 10,41,611 and then he jumps on to 1939–40 overlooking the fact that he had also set apart an amount of money in 1938–39. The Prime Minister wants us to understand that for the coming year he has given us over and above the current year Rs. 1,27,000. It is not correct at all. It is a misleading calculation. You ought to have compared what he had given under this item this year with what he has given under this item for the coming year—I mean the current year and the coming year. If you only compare what he had given this year, i.e., the current year, with the amount which he has set apart for the coming year, you will see that he has given us only Rs. 21,000 and not Rs. 1,27,000. And out of that he has set apart Rs. 17,500 for the Chidambaram School. Practically he has given us only Rs. 4,500 over and above last year's budget. That is what I say."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Why is the hon. Member treating Chidambaram as nothing at all? " 5-30 p.m.

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" I am glad, Sir, the Prime Minister has put the question to me. I am not treating Chidambaram as nothing at all. If he only had a little more patience, he would understand that the case of Chidambaram is quite different. Chidambaram is an existing institution. For Chidambaram institution, the Government have been already paying a substantial amount of grant and therefore Rs. 17,500 which is said to have been given to Chidambaram this year is

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not Rs. 17,500; it is 10,000 or so. I think that formerly Chidambaram had been getting a grant of about 4,000 or 5,000 rupees and therefore you cannot wholly claim, in the exuberance of your heart, that you have given 17,500. Chidambaram is a very important institution and we want the institution to be permanent. I am glad you are taking it up. It is your duty to do it, instead of subsidizing it. Instead of giving money to private agency, you are taking that in your own hands. I am glad you are doing it. In that connexion, Sir, the Hon. the Premier asks us whether we should not appreciate the little mercy shown. Certainly we do appreciate the little mercy shown. But what about the bombastic claims you set forth as Congressmen, posing as benefactors of the depressed classes? Compared with the bombastic claims, I venture to say that it is absolutely nothing. Sir, in that connexion, the Hon. the Premier has also questioned us by saying, 'Is it to catch votes that we have done it? Have the scheduled classes voted us into the position that we hold? Not at all. Let there be no mistake about it.' I am surprised to read this statement of the Hon. the Premier. I know, Sir, the Premier is not an ordinary gentleman; he is an intellectual prodigy and not a baby. And I am surprised to hear from the Premier that the scheduled classes . .. ."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Is it parliamentary, Sir . . ."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I am in possession of the House. You give me only 5 or 10 minutes."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He is only asking on a point of order."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Is it parliamentary to call me a prodigy?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"A prodigy surprises people and Mr. M. C. Rajah is surprised. Therefore he calls the Prime Minister a prodigy."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"If I begin to explain, it will take time and therefore let me go to the point. Sir, what I say is the Hon. the Premier has evidently forgotten the Poona Pact and the joint electorate in which the depressed classes were roped in with the Hindu electorates as against the Muslim electorate and also he does not seem to attach any special value to the 28 votes that he commands in this Assembly from my own community. Perhaps he thinks that these 28 votes are mere ciphers which by themselves have no value, but added to certain figures, they enhance the value of the figures and that the depressed classes have not also helped the party that came into power. I do not claim that we alone have set the party in power. There are also others the Non-Brahmans, whose representatives are now in jails. They have also voted for them. What I say is

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this: To make a statement on the floor of the House that we of the depressed class have not taken part in the elections and have not voted . . ."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Can any Member describe any other Member as a 'cipher'?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Did he say that?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is what he said. 'The twenty-eight depressed class members are ciphers.'"

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I said, 'Perhaps the Premier thinks'."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"That, I submit, is much worse. To say that he himself did it, he must be brave; but to say that I called them so, when I never called them so, is wrong."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Well, I am not afraid to speak the truth. If I had said so, I will accept it; I would not fear anybody in the world. It was because the Premier said, 'You have not put us into power; you are nowhere in the world; we have come of our own strength,' that I ask, 'Have not the 28 members supported him and his party?' They are all human beings."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member need not labour so much about it. They are human beings and very good human beings."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Thank you, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I would like to request my friend MR. M. C. Rajah to withdraw the statement, as our votes are considered. He cannot say that they are not considered."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You want him to withdraw that expression. Out of deference to Mr. Nagappa representing the views of Harijan members here, I think Mr. M. C. Rajah will withdraw his remarks."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"What I am to withdraw, I do not know."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Ciphers."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I never said that."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the Premier think that they are ciphers? The Premier does not think so."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I never said that. Why should I withdraw?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"You say, 'They are not'?"

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I say they are not. I want the Hon. the Premier to understand that those 28 votes are precious to him. That is what I am driving at. But he does not

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seem to understand it. I shall read what he had said. It will make the position clear. It does not give me pleasure to attack anybody in this House; it pains me."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Will the Hon. Member please read that portion and finish? "

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" Well, I will read. The Premier says, ' Is it to catch votes that we have done it? Do the scheduled classes vote us into the position that we hold? Not at all. Let there be no mistake about it.' Certainly we did vote you into the position. I say you are entirely mistaken. You are there in virtue of the fact that the scheduled classes have also voted for your party men in 152 electorates. That is exactly what I am driving at."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" May I know what it is that he is reading from? I am absolutely in the dark."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" I know you are in the dark."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Page? "

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" I am reading from the Hon. Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar's speech delivered in this House on the 24th February 1939."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Will the hon. Member give the page? "

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" Page 105."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member will proceed."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" This is an official copy. I took a loan of it from the office. If you want, I shall present it to you."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Well, Mr. Rajah need not waste time. The hon. Member will proceed if he has got any other point. In two minutes he must finish."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" I want to speak on Education, Hostels and many other things."

MR. SPEAKER :—" All these things are not to be covered here."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" Sir, I will be the only one in this House to deal with these particular items and if you are not going to allow . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" All right, you may finish it in five or six minutes."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH :—" The next point I want to speak about is the Labour Department. The Labour Department has been in existence for the last two decades and still it is

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a disgrace to say that the department is not made permanent. The other day when I put a question, the Government gave me the answer that the general staff in the Madras Labour Commissioner's office are all permanent men. I understand even the departmental staff in the districts are permanent. But the poor teachers who are carrying on the actual labour work, the educational work and the ameliorative work are not made permanent. They are treated as mere ordinary outcastes. They are left alone in the district. Their conditions are precarious. The educational rules governing them are also quite contrary to the education rules that govern the other schools. As regards salary, they do not get their salary—they are very poorly paid teachers—even on the 20th; sometimes they get it the next month. Then, how do they send the salaries to them? They are sent by money orders. The money order commission is also deducted. I am speaking on behalf of the poor people, not the rich people. A labour school teacher who gets 15 or 16 rupees, if he gets his salary on the 20th or 30th of the month, how is he going to live at all? On the other hand, I understand that the Government enforce a certain rule on the capitalist, the mills and the factories. They say, in mills and factories the labourers should be paid on the 7th of each month; but here the Government, who are employers of large labour, themselves do not pay the poorly paid teachers even on the 5th or 6th of the month and I want the Government to look into the matter very carefully. The labour officers carry on their work as mere automatons. They are not at all interested in the elevation of depressed classes.

"The next point, Sir, is that whereas teachers employed in ordinary schools get half holidays on Saturdays and full holidays on Sundays continuously, these teachers are given half holidays on Wednesdays and full holidays on Sundays. It is because they do not want to give them continuous holidays on Saturdays and Sundays. They are treated differently, not as human beings. As regards the methods of teaching, they are not at all looked after. The labour officers in the districts are drawn from the Revenue Department. They are not educationists, they know nothing about the methods of teaching, they know only how to fine and transfer the teachers from one place to another and harass them as much as possible. But they do not take any interest in the educational work.

"The next point is about the lady teachers employed in the schools. The other day I brought to the notice of the House that they are not treated properly, that they are not given maternity benefit at all. As Mr. Langley pointed out the other day, the lady workers in the mills are given maternity benefit. Factory owners are compelled by Government to give these facilities to lady workers, whereas this Government, which is supposed to look after the lady teachers, treat them with scant courtesy. They must be given maternity benefit, Sir; I hope the lady members in this House will take up this question.

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"Then so far as elementary education is concerned, very little progress has been made with reference to the education of these scheduled class boys. Sir, all these labour school boys were given mid-day meals. They have now stopped it. You must know it is difficult for these poor boys living in rural areas to get meals. For want of meals, they are not able to educate themselves. Even now the Public Services Commission says that though there are graduates, they are physically weak and therefore they are not selected for public services. As Mr. Reid has said, people get only half-a-meal a day. As regards my community, they do not get half-a-meal even. The school children are not given the benefit
6-45 of medical inspection. I hope the Government will consider the
p.m. question of the periodical medical examination of the boys in the labour schools.

"In the matter of higher education, they have absolutely made no headway. I want the Government to attend to this. Unless they give higher education to the depressed classes, how will it be possible for them to compete with others for the posts which seem to be open to them?

"As regards the S.S.L.C. course, I want that course to be free to the scheduled classes. As regards hostels I would ask the Government to pursue a policy of having a network of hostels all over the Presidency. There should be at least one hostel in each district on the lines of the Paddison Hostel, Madras.

"I have been for a very long time agitating for a hostel for girls in Madras City. I am just rushing through all the items without enlarging upon each item and taking up the time of the House. I trust the Government will consider this also.

"Then, Sir, as regards the management of the hostels I suggest that it should be entirely in the hands of the Labour Department and not in the hands of any political party. That must be borne in mind very carefully. The present policy of giving grants to the Harijan Sevak Sanghs and entrusting these hostels to their charge is opposed to our principles and we protest strongly against this new policy. As regards the Advisory Boards also I want the Government to be more cosmopolitan and more liberal. They should not tie these boards down to one political party. In regard to this matter the Hon. the Premier says at one place that these Harijan Sanghs are not political bodies and at another place he says that they are. Last year in Kodambakkam the Hon. Premier said that the Harijan Sevak Sanghs form part and parcel of the Congress in the country. I take him at his word and say that we do not want any political party to get the funds that are intended for our hostels.

"Lastly, Sir, I want to make a submission. We have been called by all sorts of names by all sorts of people that come into existence in this world. We have been protesting against the new

ame given to us. There is a bad odour about that name. I do not now whether most of the Members of the House know how we got ıe name Adi-Dravida or Adi-Andhra. In the year 1922 in the [adras Legislative Council a resolution was passed and from that ay forward the community has been styled as Adi-Dravida or .di-Andhra. That resolution was passed on 20th January 1922."

MR. SPEAKER:—"1922? It is old history."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Yes, Sir, the old ouncil passed that resolution. When the name 'Harijan' was iven to us by Mahatma Gandhi, a deputation waited on Mahatıaji when he came to Madras on 22nd December 1933. The ıembers of the deputation included . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the names need not be read. The ɘsult of the deputation alone may be given."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I was only trying to nphasize the fact, Sir, that the depressed classes were not conılted when the name 'Harijan' was chosen for them and that ırge and influential sections of our people resent the name 'Hariın.' Sir, if a name is to be given to a particular community, it but right that the community should be consulted. It is not ght for you, at a moment's notice, to say: 'Oh, we are going call you Harijans.' It is our right to select a name for our ımmunity, as the Congress party rightly says: 'It is our right frame our Constitution. We must have a Constitution framed y ourselves.' We say, similarly, we must have the right to ıoose our name and not you. You must consult us. My point this: You may call us by any name, but in Governmental ɘcords how can you introduce it? You have cunningly produced book with the heading 'The Harijan Uplift.' I take objection it. You must have consulted us and then by common consent lopted a name. Now, what does this name 'Harijan' mean? t means 'Sons of God.' Are you not sons of God? What is the ifference between you and me. Do you call yourselves Harijans? f so, there is no mistake at all. But you call yourselves 'Brahıans'—a very holy name. And you call yourselves 'Kshatriyas,' nd so on and so forth. We strongly protest against this name Harijans.' (The Hon. Sri S. Ramanathan:—And what is the ame you suggest?) I am not going to suggest a name. I want ıy community to suggest a name for itself. It is their right and ot yours."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may finish; he need ot mind the interruptions."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"In this connexion I ant to tell the Government that my community has selected a ame for itself and that the Legislature has accepted the name

'Adi-Dravida,' 'Adi-Andhra,' and 'Adi-Karnataka.' (Interruption.) My friends may read the literature on it if they are interested in the community. In conclusion, Sir, I must say that I am glad that the department is now in the able hands of the Hon. Mr. V. V. Giri. He is a labour leader and I know him intimately. He is safeguarding the interests of labour. My community is akin to labour and I hope he will take note of all the suggestions I have placed before the House and speedily redress all our grievances."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think Mr. Rajah has said all about the scheduled classes and it is unnecessary for others to speak on behalf of the scheduled classes."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, Mr. Rajah has been engaged more in proving that the members of the House who do not belong to his *group* but only belong to his *community* are not doing well in standing by the Government than in dealing with the motion before the House. He has been saying more things about the 28 gentlemen he referred to not being properly respected by us, than about the defects of our administration in regard to the scheduled classes. I am not at present interested in either defending or explaining the attitude of my colleagues in the House who belong to his community. I think that I respect them really more than he does by attributing to them all that he has attributed. (Mr. M. C. Rajah: Question.) I accept them as equal colleagues. They are daily and every minute influencing the policy of the Government. Mr. Rajah is not aware of the activities of the members of his community who are in the Government. I can only submit that he is entirely wrong in valuing them as he does, whatever may be the object of the position he has taken. He is doing them grave injustice. I do not think that there are any members in this House belonging to the Ministerial benches who are more active and more concerned about their own affairs and more pushful in putting forward their claims before the Government that the 28 members referred to. But it may be all right for Mr. Rajah to be extremely angry with them for being on this side of the House."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I am not angry with the members of my community. The Hon. Premier is misleading them."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"He is not angry, Sir; but all that he has said is more about that than about the Demand itself.

"Mr. Rajah criticized the Government for not having done much more than last year. It is true that this year we have been able only to do a little more than what we did last year. Last year we were only able to do a little more than in the previous year. But the quantity of increase is not related in any manner to our

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desire and our desire is not related in any manner to our willingness. It is related only to the resources that are available. If my hon. Friend will only care to read what I said—he was quoting from it—he will see there an earnest plea for appreciation and at the same time he would see there a frank admission that we have done but little, and that it is much less than what we wanted to do. I have said so. I have made that explicit admission that this is very little, but this is all that we have been able to do. I have given the figures also there."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" You are judged by what you do and not by what you say."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" There is not much in what he said just now. (Laughter.) What I have been saying is that the statement he has quoted proves that we do not value very much what we have done, but that we only wish that even the little that we have done in the midst of our difficulties, should be appreciated if it is at all possible. But I do not complain because it is not appreciated by Mr. Rajah. I have said in the same breath that we have tried to do this, not to please anybody, but because it is our duty to do so.

" Sir, the hon. Member appeared to refer to something about votes in that connexion. I cannot even now understand, though I have got the passage before me, the point that he was trying to make out of it. It appeared to him that this sentence he was reading from gave him reason to imagine that we do not value the 28 votes that are here. There is no such thing in that sentence or passage. The only thing that I have tried to say in that passage is that the little that we have done is done in order not to get votes, but in order to do our duty to some extent. And I said in that connexion that if it were intended merely that our service should be for the purpose of securing popularity among people and getting a much larger number of votes from them, we would have probably served other people. But we are trying to serve these people because it is our duty to do so. I have taken so much time replying to this point only because Mr. Rajah is an important leader of an important community. I wish he had been really juster than he has been; I wish that he had been a little calmer than he was; I wish that he had been fairer than he has been to us; and I wish that he had been clearer than he has been. It is no use merely saying: 'You have not done a great deal; you have forgotten the Poona Pact.' Where have we forgotten the Poona Pact, I want to know. The Poona Pact is there; he says we have forgotten the Poona Pact because we have not done more! Is that an argument? We have not forgotten the Poona Pact. I have not forgotten the Poona Pact and nobody on this side of the House has. That is all I can say.

" Then, the hon. Member says, the name ' Harijan ' is wrong. What is the reason? The reason is that the name ' Harijan ' can be claimed even by us, the Brahmans and therefore that name is wrong. I say, for that very reason the name is right. If a name is given to these people which can be applied even to the rest of the Hindu community, that is reason enough for doing so. With that name these people can gradually become, by common consent, equal to everybody else. It was in order . . ."

Sri Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJAH:—" If I am given half a minute, I would explain . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Is it a personal explanation? "

Sri Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJAH:—" I wish to explain, Sir, why I do not want that name."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Why you do not want it? You applied it to yourself in the first instance? "

Sri Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJAH:—" I had no time to explain that in the course of my speech."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Half a minute is allowed to the hon. Member for making a personal explanation."

Sri Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJAH:—" I said that I object to that name, but I had no time to give reasons for that. I would have given sufficient reasons for objecting to the name, but I had no time at my disposal to do so."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—" நான் ஒரு வார்த்தை சொல்லுகிறேன் ஹரி ஜனங்கள் என்கிற பெயரை ஜனங்கள் எல்லோரும் ஆதரிக்கிறார்கள் நானும் பூரணமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I cannot allow the hon. Member to make a speech at this stage."

* The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, it was not our attempt to find a new name; it was the attempt of a great man whose whole life has been spent in trying to identify these people with the rest of humanity in our country and to obliterate all differences that have existed and who was prepared to give his life for that end. A man of that nature, a man with that record and that motive, rightly or wrongly found that this name would serve for the further progress of his idea and for the further achievement of his goal. Now, he has given this name. Supposing Mr. Rajah does not like the name, it is at least open to us to like that name. If it is not liked, if nobody wants that name, the name will go. We gain nothing by that name unless we believe that we can achieve something through that name. If Mr. Rajah would rather prefer to have the word ' Adi so-and-so ' always reminding people that they are an aboriginal people, a distinct people and a different people, I cannot understand his mentality. But I can only explain that the word ' Harijan ' is a name which has been given to them with a good motive and not with a bad motive. If there

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are any reasons which prevent them from accepting that name, let those reasons prevail and the name go. But that at least is not the reason as against those who have used that name, because it is used by a good man and by a man whose motives we believe." 7 p

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" Sir, with reference to what Swami Sahajanandam said . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You need not take notice of that."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—" Sir, Swami Sahajanandam has misled the whole house . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Leave Swami Sahajanandam to himself."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, the name had better be left at that.

" Sir, it was said that we are not dealing with these school-masters properly, that they have been left to the tender mercies of the Labour department and that they do not come under the management of the Education department. We have not brought about this change. The thing was conceived long before we came here. They were not put under the management of the general administrative department, because it was thought that they had to be paid special attention, more attention and a different kind of attention than what was given to the ordinary schools and ordinary teachers. And if Mr. Rajah convinces the Hon. Minister for Education and the Hon. Minister for Labour and me, if necessary, that a transfer of these people to any other department is really more convenient to the people concerned, I promise that it will be done. We have no object in putting them under a particular department and it is not our object to torture them by putting them under another department, nor is it the object that it would be an advantage to us if we put them under another department. If they have been put under another department, it was because we were convinced that the department which is managing them would bestow more attention on their work than the ordinary Education department, which has got different standards and different ideals. If any day we are convinced and if Mr. M. C. Rajah is persuasive enough to prove that it would be better if they are transferred to another department, I will accept that proposition and will transfer them to the Education department. But I will tell him to-day that the families from which these students come will suffer really if we transfer them to the Education department. A good purpose is served by having a separate department for them.

" Then with regard to holidays, such an insignificant and obscure matter was taken up by Mr. Rajah as if it was an obvious illustration of all our cruelties concerning the management of these schools. He said, ' Where is the necessity for declaring Wednesday and Sunday as holidays in these schools instead of Saturday

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and Sunday as it is ordinarily done in other schools? So this is wrong.' I say, 'No.' There is no solemnity about Saturday and Sunday alone being holidays, nor can it be said that Sunday and Saturday are better than Wednesdays and Sundays. It all depends upon the classes, the teachers and the students. I do not know the reason why Wednesdays and Sundays were selected as holidays for these labour schools. I think it was possibly because that the department thought that, if two continuous holidays were given to the students, their parents would take them away from schools to their homes and this in turn would make the students who might probably stay away in their homes for one or two days more, irregular in their attendance. Probably on account of this they thought that it would be preferable to divide the holidays into two parts whereby the continuity of the presence of students in schools might also be retained. Surely this does not prove any bad intention on the part of the management. But if Mr. Rajah is very particular that Saturday and Sunday should be continuously declared as holidays for these schools and if he approaches the Minister in charge of this department in this respect, I think it will certainly be accepted. But the very fact that such a peculiarly obscure and trifling matter has been made the point of attack on the Government shows that there has been nothing better for him on which to attack the Government."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Sir, the only thing I wish to say is . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member cannot say anything now. He can only withdraw his cut motion."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I have got the right of reply."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, there is no right of reply."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Then, Sir, am I merely to withdraw my cut motion without saying anything?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes. The hon. Member cannot be permitted to reply."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"Very good, Sir. In view of the fact that the Hon. Prime Minister has given me the assurance that he will look into all the grievances including that of having Wednesdays and Sundays as holidays. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, no. You can only withdraw the cut motion. You cannot make a supplemental speech."

SRI RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH:—"I am coming to the point, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You cannot make a supplemental speech. If you are not willing to withdraw it, you can leave it to vote."

The cut motion was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding rupees 42,13,800 under Demand XXIV—Civil Works—Works.*'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"As the hon. Members who have given notice of cut motions are not in their places, they are deemed to have been withdrawn."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding rupees 33,49,400 under Demand XXV—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant.*'"

* SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, viz.,

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 33,49,400 for Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant by Rs.* 100.'

"Sir, the object of this token cut motion is to invite the attention of the Government to the fact that there is great scope for making retrenchment in the Public Works Department and that greater efficiency could be obtained by reorganizing the department and by making such retrenchment. I do not claim any originality for the proposal I am making here, because I have the support of the views of Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, who was Secretary to the Public Works Department, and who pressed his views with regard to the centralization of the Superintending Engineers in Madras before the Souter Committee in 1934. The position is that the Public Works Department, as it is organized at present, is top-heavy. It contains 2 Chief Engineers, 6 Superintending Engineers, 2 Temporary Superintending Engineers and 32 permanent divisions. The proposal made in 1934 by Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar was to bring the Superintending Engineers to Madras and thereby effect retrenchment of two posts of Superintending Engineers. My suggestion to-day is that it is best to take a review of the work of the six Superintending Engineers (two of them are temporary), and the two Deputy Chief Engineers and find out what they do. The Superintending Engineers, at the present moment, are more or less post offices. I do not say that their offices should be abolished, but the post office will probably serve better if they are kept in Madras and are made advisers to the Chief Engineer in respect of what is happening in their own divisions. If they are kept in Madras, they can be in close touch with the Chief Engineers, instead of corresponding with them by post which

means enormous delay. The recruitment to the Public Works Department on an All-India basis has been stopped, but so long as the Indian Service of Engineers continues, the legacy of the two Engineers that has been handed down to us has got to be continued. And keeping them as they are, it is best to bring the Superintending Engineers to Madras and divide them on a functional basis. You may have two for Irrigation, one for Roads and Buildings and one or two Superintending Engineers for projects and the post of two Deputy Chief Engineers can be abolished.

"I have got a further suggestion to make following the practice now in vogue in Mysore, viz., the creation of a Board of Engineers. These Superintending Engineers, if they are in Madras, will help the Government to constitute a Board of Engineers. At the present moment the Sanitary Engineer is also of the same grade as the Superintending Engineer and he can very well go into that Board when it is constituted. And if later, the Government appoint an Indian as Chief Engineer for Electricity, I do not see any reason why he also should not be put in the grade of a Superintending Engineer and also made a Member of the Board of Engineers. So that, what I submit is that the Public Works Department can be controlled by one or two Chief Engineers and the existing Superintending Engineers can be divided up on a functional basis working in Madras. The proposal of Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar in 1934, according to the estimates, would have resulted—he said then—in a saving of Rs. 2,10,000. According to my proposal, the saving will be considerably more, because it will also effect a saving in the establishment of the different Superintending Engineers I should not go into details and being a layman, there is no point in my doing so. I would like the Hon. Minister for Public Works, who has had some experience of business and who is therefore eminently fitted to do this, to scrutinize the particular suggestion that I am making. I think he will really be fortified if he looks into the views expressed by Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar in the Souter Committee Report and also the dissenting minute submitted by Diwan Bahadur Ratnasabhapathi Mudaliyar. I earnestly commend my suggestions for the consideration of the Government."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I would like to say something on this Demand. It is this: reduce the cost of establishment in the Public Works Department as a whole. The hon. Member representing the Southern India Chamber of Commerce said the same thing with particular reference to the higher staff. I agree with him only to a certain extent. I do not think it is possible, when we are living in these days of specialization, to have one Chief Engineer for two departments, viz., ' Roads, Buildings and Development ' and Irrigation. Both the departments are expanding and when they are expanding and when the nature of

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the work requires different heads to manage the entire establishment as a whole, I do not think it would be possible at any time to reduce the two Chief Engineers and have only one for the entire department of the Presidency.

" With regard to the reduction of staff I have not much to say. But there is one thing. The relation of the cost of the establishment to the total outlay is a thing of which the Government ought to make a close scrutiny. It has been a standing grievance that the proportion of the cost of establishment to the total outlay on the work has been exorbitant. It will not serve any useful purpose if figures are quoted from the Punjab or Bombay or the United Provinces in order to show that the proportion in those Provinces is greater. I know that in Bombay, it is about 50 per cent, in the United Provinces about 45 per cent and in the Punjab much more. That is no consolation to us. To quote such figures would be merely *petitio principii* or begging the question. We have the proportion of 35 or 40 per cent and in some cases it goes beyond that percentage even. I want that the percentage should be brought as low as possible, because there are grounds for it. Where works are completed by private contractors within a period of one year, the Public Works Department takes two or three years. I can give numerous instances of that kind, bnt it may not be useful. A certain item of work which will cost only Rs. 100, if executed by a private agency costs three or four times that amount, if executed by the Public Works Department. Sometimes it goes to even ten times that amount. There must be certainly some reason for this. A small flush-out mechanism and a cabin to house it were erected in the High Court premises at a cost of Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000. A private agency could have done it at a cost of Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,500. 7-15 p.m.

" There was once a committee appointed to go into the question of retrenchment in the Public Works Department establishment and reducing the proportion of the cost of establishment to the total outlay on the works. These suggestions were brushed aside by the then bureaucratic Government for reasons which were not obvious. Those reasons do not hold good now and they were considerations other than those of the welfare of the country. Now, Sir, the popular Government, the Congress Government must be able to bring down . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" So, the hon. Member opposes the cut motion."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—" No, Sir, I am not opposing the cut motion. I am speaking on a different aspect of the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Then is the hon. Member supporting the cut motion?"

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Undoubtedly. I am supporting the cut motion and giving my reasons for supporting it. I am referring to one other aspect of the Public Works Department and I say that it ought to be considered as a serious question. To summarize, Sir, there are three aspects. One is the proportion of the cost of establishment to the total outlay on the works and the other is the time taken. The third is the enormity of the estimates. There is enough scope for examining the question in all these three aspects. I therefore request the Hon. Minister either to set up an independent committee or himself take up the investigation and see that the Public Works Department ceases to be the 'Public Waste Department' as it is commonly called."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Mr. Speaker, one characteristic of the Congress Government not only in Madras but throughout India is that they are bent upon reducing expenditure in all departments and in all directions. So any suggestion made by the Opposition which will help the Government in reducing the cost in any department is always welcome. But Sir, at the same time I should say that if the hon. Members who have spoken on the cut motion are under the impression that I have not considered the necessity for reduction or have not given any attention to this matter, they are very much mistaken. After this explanation, I will try to convince hon. Members that if in one or two directions I have not succeeded in reducing the staff, it was not because there was no intention or desire to do it, but because there have been difficulties in the way. Mr. Krishnamachariar quoted from previous records and said that the Superintending Engineers were serving only as post offices, that they should not be stationed in the mufassal but that they should be kept in Madras and that some of them might be attached to the one department and some to the other department to help the Chief Engineers. Sir, my study of the whole system has shown that the Superintending Engineers are very, very necessary. We have got a number of Executive Engineers—31 or so. These Executive Engineers are in charge of divisions. Some of these Executive Engineers are raw hands who have had only a few years' experience. Others of course have had more experience. It is not possible for the Chief Engineer to supervise the work of all the Executive Engineers spread over 32 Divisions. Therefore, some intermediary agency for supervision is absolutely necessary and without that it is impossible to work this department. There was a committee called the Public Works Establishment Committee which went thoroughly into this question and I will quote what the Committee says with regard to Superintending Engineers: The Report says—

'The necessity for the existence of Superintending Engineers has been questioned by the ordinary lay critic in the Legislative Council and outside and the usual impression is that such officers act in the main as post offices.' [This was the expression used by Mr. Krishnamachariar also.]

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'We have considered this question with much care and discussed its pros and cons in great detail, and we cannot agree to this wholesale criticism. For controlling efficiently the large area in the Presidency and the large number of Public Works Department officers, the two heads of the department should have the assistance of senior intermediate officers like Superintending Engineers who form in the hierarchy of Public Works Department staff the principal inspecting and supervising authorities . . . The necessity for Superintending Engineers is also due in some measure to the fact that many of the Executive Engineers' divisions have to be manned by comparatively junior officers of about seven or eight years' experience. These require advice and guidance in the discharge of their responsible duties. For the adequate safeguarding of public expenditure in this, the principal spending department of Government, it is necessary that the proposals of the Executive Engineers, especially of the junior ones among them, should be subjected to the scrutiny of experienced senior officers like Superintending Enginers . .

"I do find that these Superintending Engineers are necessary and they cannot be dispensed with. Hon. Members are aware that according to the Government of India Act, whatever number is fixed by the Secretary of State for a particular cadre, that cannot be reduced. The number has been fixed at six in the case of Superintending Engineers and we cannot reduce that number. But the work has increased so much that instead of six, we have now got seven Superintending Engineers. I have been trying to reduce one circle at least. At first I thought that I might take away the Bellary Circle, but famine work came and it had to be delayed. At present I am thinking of abolishing the Trichinopoly Circle. The question of redistributing the divisions in the circles so that we may have only six circles is engaging our attention very much. In the meantime the work of the Sanitary Department has come under the supervision of the Chief Engineer. Thus more work has fallen on the shoulders of the Superintending Engineers. Sir, economy does not consist in removing certain officers who are found necessary and indispensable, but economy can be ensured by seeing that their whole time is usefully employed. That is the way to effect economy; not sending away some officers and disturbing the supervising agency. On the other hand, throwing more work on those officers and making them more useful—that is the way to manage the department economically.

"The hon. Member also suggested that just as in Mysore there is a Board of Engineers, there should be a Board of Engineers in Madras also. Sir, I think these people who always ask for Boards are labouring under a great delusion. Everywhere a Board is wanted. We have a Revenue Board here and as far as I know no other Province has such a Board. Perhaps one or two Provinces may have. It had been also suggested that there should be a statutory Electricity Board to look after Government electrical undertakings. Now the hon. Member wants that instead of the Chief Engineers directing the administration individually, there should be a Board of Engineers to direct the administration. This kind of arrangement, Sir, I submit, is not

suitable to Madras. It will not make for economy. Now that we have a popular Government here, it is much better that everything should be examined by the Minister in charge with the help of the Secretary to the Government. There is no necessity for the medium of a Board. The Boards should be done away with as far as possible even where they exist. When you set up a Board, the Minister's hands get tied. Instead of one Chief Engineer sending up a proposal to the Secretariat, proposals would come from a Board of Engineers and then there will he greater emphasis on them, because the Board of Engineers have passed them and not merely one man. You can deal with one Chief Engineer and direct him properly but you cannot deal so effectively with a Board.
-30 Some people may say that concentration of powers is not good and
.m. it does not make for efficiency; but in my opinion, Sir, concentration conduces to efficiency, and without concentration, work will not be so well regulated as it would be with concentration."

"Mr. Basheer Ahmed . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think all the members have been sufficiently answered."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Mr. Basheer Ahmed referred to one point."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My point has not been answered yet, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Your point is so simple; he will answer it in half a minute."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I know, Sir, there is an impression abroad that the Public Works Department work is more costly, and that any work executed by private contractors or private persons is cheaper than what it would be if executed by the Public Works Department. That is the general complaint of Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. I think, Sir, there is some ground for that remark, and I am closely studying the question. There are many registered contractors, and these contractors have been making large profits. When tenders are called for, various contractors submit tenders, and the cheapest tender is accepted. Now, in the case of a certain work, suppose the cheapest tender was found to be Rs. 1 lakh. Now, if you say that the same work could be done for Rs. 50,000, is it the fault of the Public Works Department that there was nobody to submit a tender for less than Rs. 1 lakh? Can you suggest that the system of tenders should be abolished? No, you will not suggest it; and if the department does the work itself, of course it means nearly the same thing as the contractors doing it. The department has to employ labour, purchase materials, and add supervision charges and the work becomes as expensive as work done by the contractors. The thing

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is this: nowadays, small contractors have disappeared. Twenty or thirty years ago, there were many small contractors, a host of them. Now they have all disappeared. Many European contractors with more capital under their control, more machinery in their possession and more facilities at their disposal, have come into the field. They submit tenders for large works and no Indian contractor is able to compete with them. That is the position. We have not got in this Presidency a sufficient number of enterprising men; Indians show no enterprise in business lines. In Bombay and Bengal and elsewhere, many Indians are businessmen; many Indians are contractors and they run many different businesses. The poor Madrasis have no initiative or enterprise, and they do not take to commercial and industrial activities. It is our own fault. I am quite willing to divide a big contract into small contracts, if small contractors are willing to take them up. Or let some people combine; let some mercantile people or businessmen combine and give lower tenders and be content with smaller profits; and I shall see that they are given preference. But as long as contracts are monopolized by a few big firms, there is no hope of reducing the cost of the departmental construction work. In spite of these drawbacks, I am doing my best and am giving my best attention to this aspect of the question. I hope, Sir, the cut motion will be withdrawn."

SRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" I withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I move, Sir—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 72,53,900 under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid.*'

" Sir, I may be permitted to say that in the last year's Budget, the amount put in was only Rs. 56,85,800, while this year it is Rs. 72,53,900, the difference being about Rs. 15 lakhs and odd. It is not that we are proposing to spend more money on building roads; but certain items of expenditure which used to be debited to Public Health Demand, No. XVII, have now been transferred to this Demand, because we have entrusted sanitary engineering works to the Public Works Department. This is explained in detail in the Budget Memorandum at pages 130–135."

* MR. F. G. LUKER:—" Mr. Speaker, I move the cut motion standing in my name—

'*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 72,53,900 *for Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid by Rs.* 100.'

"I may say that in the short time at my disposal, I will be as brief as possible, and will deal with matters of wide interest only, without touching upon details.

"The question of roads and grants to roads is a very wide subject and one of the utmost importance to all in our Presidency. If I appear to deal with matters which are perhaps a little wider than the actual subject of the road grant, I crave your indulgence, Sir, and that of the House; but they are all matters which, as will be found, are connected with roads.

"We have in our Presidency something like 32,000 miles of roads and not only the members of my group, but the whole House, and I think every one in Southern India will agree, that it is an impossibility for us to expect in this decade—or perhaps in any decade—that our roads will approach the roads that are laid out in western countries of the world. I think it is an impossibility, at any rate for many years to come; and so, in what I say on roads, I trust the Hon. Minister will appreciate that I am not expecting the impossible.

"In regard to our roads to-day as they exist, there are many problems; and I trust again, Sir, that the Hon. Minister and the House will not think that, not being a Road Engineer, I am trying to teach them the rudiments of road engineering. But I may say that I am acquainted with the problem of roads, and I quite appreciate the problems that confront us. We have in this Province a huge mileage and we have had left to us, if I may say so, a legacy, of roads which have neither a correct foundation nor a correct surface to combat those forces of nature which tend to destroy these roads. That perhaps is the reason for the recurring expenditure with which we are faced. Is there a solution to this or is there not? The whole tenor of my short speech is directed to the question as to how we can, as tax-payers and members of the Assembly and as district board members, combat this ever-recurring expenditure. I think there is a solution; but I think that in the past, Governments have not viewed this problem in a wide enough manner. We see as we travel through South India, roads that are made of roadstone, with bunds on either side, covered with mud or earth, and we see upon them road maintenance works continuously going on, with labourers carrying water in small vessels from a quarter of a mile distance and rolling these roads with hand road-rollers. We, as members of the House, may be told perhaps that this kind of work is necessary to give work to as many people as possible in our Province; but, nevertheless, I think that these methods of piecemeal repair are merely adding to our annual expenditure. At the same time, I think the money available for such road-work is unfortunately too limited. I do think, Sir, that the policy should be for both the district boards and the Government, as regards trunk and second-class roads,

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to endeavour to thoroughly reconstruct as much as possible annually and hence in time to prevent the piecemeal methods of rolling roadstone and earth on the surface, to be washed away in the coming monsoon, and then in the next year having to do the whole work again. We are glad to see that experiments are being made on the Trunk road north of Madras, not from our own funds, but from our share of the Central Government Petrol Tax, along a piece of road to the extent of about five miles. But I notice with some apprehension that on that road no attempt has been made on any section to segregate the various kinds of traffic. I think all kinds of traffic are nsing that road indiscriminately including motor vehicles and bullock carts. And so, we shall not get the very vital statistics, that we need from that experiment which, I believe, has cost us about Rs. 5 lakhs.

" We have, Sir, fortunately for us in Madras, what is known as the Vipan Report. That is a very comprehensive report about the whole road system of Southern India, and I think we are very fortunate in having that report to assist us in our future road policy, both technically and economically.

" The leader of my group recently stated in this House that as long as he was here, he would raise the question—the old question no doubt—of the bullock cart which uses our roads, without paying anything for this use; and I do trust you will permit me, Sir, to touch upon this question, because it has a vital bearing on the cost of maintenance of our roads. On the roads that we have, at present, which are not water proofed, we find that monsoon rains easily wash away and loosen the surfaces; and then the bullock-cart comes along and makes two regular tracks on the road surface. There are other forms of transport which also use the roads, but we find almost invariably these two tracks formed and these are caused by bullock-carts. Now, how can we overcome this? It has been suggested that the bullock-cart, just like the motor vehicle, should be taxed. I would seriously make, for the consideration of Government, two suggestious. The first is that even if we do not tax the bullock-cart for the use of the village roads or mud roads—and after all, the bullock cart has in a way the right to use the village roads; if it uses the metalled road—whether it be a trunk road or a second-class road—then, surely, it should be made to contribute something towards the maintenance of those metalled roads. Or alternatively, if bullock-carts use our metalled roads, they should be equipped with pneumatic tyres. Such a procedure would enormously reduce our annual maintenance expenditure. I would draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the extensive tests carried out by the North-West 7-45 p.m.
Frontier Province—with regard to the road wear of steel tyres and rubber tyres and the results are all incontrovertible. I put the suggestion of the insistence of rubber tyres on bullock-carts merely as a tax-payer and as a user of the roads. We are agreed

that our funds are limited and we must find some way of getting better roads and preventing the enormous cost which is being incurred every year on maintenance.

"Sir, the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan, after hearing the speech of my hon. Friend, Mr. Reid, promised to look into the question of the limitation of weights of vehicles in various districts due in many cases to the inability of the bridges to carry them. Although the question relates to another Demand, I would beg you, Sir, to permit me to touch upon that question very briefly in connexion with this grant. I would ask the Hon. Minister for Local Administration to co-operate with the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan to see that more money is spent on those bridges that are weak, so that we can bring them up to some uniformity throughout the various districts of the Province. I wish, and I am sure everybody here wishes, that we would get more money from the Central Petrol Fund. We need it; and I wish we could use it for the rebuilding of our roads. It is true that we have spent and are spending lakhs and lakhs from the proceeds of the Central Petrol Fund on bridges and diversions and such other items of capital expenditure. But to put up a good bridge on a road, when that road is incapable of carrying traffic, seems to be false economy. When we spend money on bridges, we should also have money to spend on the rebuilding of the roads on which such bridges have to be constructed. I would also commend for the consideration of the Government the question of road diversions round the villages and towns. This matter has been dealt with and is being dealt with by the Hon. Minister for Local Administration, but I think this is a matter which should very much concern the Minister for Public Health; because if we can divert most of our traffic along roads around villages and towns, I am sure that this will very considerably improve the health of the people of our Province who live in towns and villages.

"In conclusion, Sir, as a time-expired member of the Board of Communications, I will touch on the work of that body and its connexion with roads, without any disloyalty to my previous *confreres* and to the Hon. Minister. We have an advisory body called the Board of Communications and I am not aware as to what the Government's proposals are in the future as regards that body, but I have personally been a little disappointed in that; I do not think sufficient use has been made of the Board of Communications, which is a very representative body.

"Under the All-India Motor Vehicles Bill, there are many questions of policy and procedure, which our Board of Communications will have to decide. Although this itself has no bearing on the road policy of our Government, I think from the point of view of the good of our Province, and from my experience also,

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it is better at any rate to have in regard to road questions a thoroughly representative body that will deal not only with co-ordination but also with road construction.

" I trust, Sir, that the Hon. Minister and the Government will make the best use in future of the Board of Communications.

" In conclusion, I would urge the Government to adopt a wide policy as regards our roads, and to start buildings for the future on sound lines—but to start now—so that the cost of maintenance will be gradually reduced."

* K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, I am afraid it will be considered uncharitable on my part to move or support any cut motion under this Demand for it is the solitary Demand with which the Minister for Local Administration comes before this House. But my idea in speaking on this occasion is to point out one particular difficulty felt in my district of Kurnool for want of road communications between Cumbum and Ardaveedu. Sir, it was last year that I referred to this same matter and I again appeal to the Hon. Minister to do something to remove this difficulty under which the people of my district have been suffering for a long time. Sir, I refer to the village called Ardaveedu in the Cumbum taluk, which is about 18 miles away from the taluk headquarters. There is no road connecting these centres. To add to this even the cart-track is closed for traffic during the rainy season. The cart-track goes right across the Cumbum tank; the people find it impossible to pass over it when the tank is full. Even ordinarily, the way to the village is very rocky and it is not with any ease that people can reach this particular village from Cumbum or *vice versa*.

" Sir, I do not wish to take much of the time of the House. I only appeal to the Hon. Minister to grant some amount for the construction of this road; it is of course a big project of 18 miles, but since it will not be easy for the district board to find funds for doing this work, I request the Government to come forward with the necessary help. If that is not possible, I propose another alternative and that is this: There is the Railway Cess Fund and if Government will be pleased to pass orders for the utilization of this fund so that this road construction may be undertaken, the work can be completed. I therefore once again appeal to the Hon. Minister to do something in the matter."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief. I wish in the first place, to point out that the sum of Rs. 72 lakhs asked for under this Demand is quite insufficient for the demands of the entire Province. If you examine the various items under (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*), (*e*), (*f*) and (*g*), you will find that the amount allotted is, from one point of view, very inadequate. If you take up the way in which this entire fund

including also the Central Road Fund is used, you will see tha there has been an enormous saving; consequently, the impressio created in the mind of the people is that there has been over budgeting. But, Sir, my complaint with regard to the Publi Works Department generally is that there has been a waste o expenditure and that the expenditure should be brought down.

"Now, Sir, according to the latest report on the Appropriatio Accounts, I may invite the attention of the Hon. Minister in charg to the fact that, works which were originally estimated a Rs. 50,83,140 were completed actually with a saving of Rupee 11,81,250. From this, Sir, you can imagine how exactly th works are estimated. In this case, nearly more than one-fifth o 20 per cent was saved; and that really puts us in a false position You want to provide more money than you can actually spen and the result of it is, you starve every other department. That I think, is a matter which the Hon. Minister has to attend to. would suggest that the reason for this state of affairs is, that ther is no closer supervision and the tendency on the part of the Publi Works Department has always been to start works at the fag-en of the year and then to hurry them up within the three or fou months left till the end of the year; that is the reason why the are not able to spend the entire amount within the three or fou months and the result is there is a huge saving. I therefore wan the Hon. Minister to devise a scheme by which the works migh be spread out during all the twelve months so that the entir amount that is given may be spent. The complaint has been tha the works are not completed and there is a lapse of the grant an that lapse has to be accounted for. Sir, one whole year is give for the officers to prepare the estimates, call for tenders and t get the thing ready and the Budget is sanctioned on the 31s March. Then, what is it that prevents these people, if they ar really efficient, from starting the work in May, June or July? O the other hand, Sir, I have seen in many cases the works wer actually started in the month of January. For instance, I ma quote here one example in Madras itself, and that is, the construc tion of the compound wall in the High Court. It was a very, ver curious thing. We sanctioned the work on the 31st March an it was taken up months later; and because it had to be hurried u before the end of the year, the work was not at all satisfactoril done.

"There is, Sir, another aspect of the matter on which request the Hon. Minister to bestow some attention and that is i regard to probable savings. Notwithstanding the fact that accoun is taken of probable savings, there has been in the past year saving of Rs. 5,47,863 under the sub-head (*f*) and there is a simila saving of Rs. 72,000 under (*g*). Another thing is, that, on th whole, when you budget for Works—Grants-in-aid, it should b

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properly estimated. On the other hand, according to the latest report available, I find there has been a saving of 10·6 per cent. That is again over-budgeting; that kind of over-budgeting has to be stopped; and if that is stopped, I am sure more money will be made available for other items.

" There is one other point I want to mention, Sir. Ninety-nine schemes were taken up for one year and out of that, the schemes actually completed were only about 32 or so, though all the schemes should have been completed during the year itself; and the others were still left in progress. In the case of certain schemes, for which lakhs were sanctioned, only Rs. 500, Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 were spent. There is certainly no justification for this state of things. Therefore, Sir, I request the Hon. Minister to refer to the suggestions made by Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar in regard to this matter. He made certain valuable suggestions and one of them is that there should be one Superintending Engineer who will co-ordinate the activities of all the district board engineers and he should be in charge, so to say, of all works and see that they are completed automatically and within a reasonable time. If that suggestion had been accepted and adopted by the Government, I am sure, these complaints would not have been made. I still suggest that instead of having a Special Engineer for Roads—and we do not know what his functions are, how he functions and what his duties are—we should have for the Public Works Department, one Superintending Engineer placed in charge of the entire District Board Engineering Service, which has been now provincialized, so that all the works may be carried out more effectively. Then the works will be attended to more closely and there will be more expedition in the completion of those works.

" When the Government have taken up the provincialization 8 p.m. of the Municipal and District Board Engineering service, I do not see why they could not act up to my suggestion of having a Superintending Engineer for the purpose of seeing that the money that has been budgeted for is spent without allowing it to lapse and the expenditure should be spread over all the twelve months. There is this difficulty in not spreading the execution of the work over the twelve months. Work is started in the month of January or February and is hurried up and naturally the quality of the work deteriorates. I can quote an example though it does not pertain to this Demand and the present Government were not responsible. The buildings for housing the office of the Director of Public Instruction were constructed some years ago by the Public Works Department and even before the buildings were occupied, cracks appeared in the walls. Another building is the Medical College, that big hall which you can see as you drive along the Central station."

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I submit that these do not seem to have anything to do with the local boards Demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is his last speech."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This is my last speech so far as the Demand under discussion is concerned. I invite the Hon. Minister to go and inspect the buildings I have mentioned as a private gentleman and see how, if buildings are constructed in a hurry, great damage results. If that were the state of affairs in respect of a building constructed by the Public Works Department, you can well imagine the state of affairs in works undertaken by the Local Self-Government Department.

"Another grievance is that out of the works undertaken from out of the Central Road Development Fund, not a single work has been thought of in the South Arcot district as a whole. There is a widespread demand that rivers should be bridged and there is also much need for surfacing the roads in the districts. My Hon. Friend, the Minister for Rural Development, who has toured extensively, when he goes there will see how his car raises a cloud of dust on the roads and how he returns from that place loaded with heaps of dust. That is a thing that ought to be prevented by providing larger funds for the purpose of surfacing the roads, the Grand Trunk Road and other roads. Some of the rivers which have not yet been bridged should be bridged. I want my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration, who has not toured extensively in my district, to come to that district and see the actual state of affairs for himself and do something to ameliorate the state of affairs that exist there."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am thankful to the hon. Members, who have moved the cut motion and spoken in support of the same. I am glad that no blame has been laid on the administration of this Government. Mostly they were suggestions and they will certainly be looked into.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Luker, made very valuable suggestions about road-making. Road-making has also become a technical and specialized subject and that is the answer that I should also give to Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed in reply to his suggestion for the appointment of a Superintending Engineer as the head of the District Board Engineers. I may point out to him that the Public Works Department Superintending Engineers have not much experience of road-making and it is practically no good bringing in Building Engineers and Irrigation Engineers, all on a sudden as the head of the District Board Engineers. On the other hand, the District Board Engineers and their assistants deal with the roads and their whole career is spent on it and to-day we have as the head of the District Board Engineers, a Special Engineer for

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Road Development, who was attached to the district boards and who knows road-making and who is also on the executive of the Road Congress. So, Sir, the present arrangement is not in any way bad and I hope that with the assistance of the Special Engineer, we will make headway in our road-making.

" According to Mr. Luker, there has to be a segregation of traffic, the bullock-carts to go on the left or right hand side of the roads, the middle being made available for motor traffic. This of course will be a very ideal arrangement. But there is the other side of the case also. Our friends coming from the village parts ask for roads. According to my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman, there are bad and indifferent roads and people in such districts as Kurnool, from which my hon. Friend comes, say that they are put to much trouble on account of the fact that in the absence of roads they have to go through hills, rocks, valleys and dales. I agree. In between the two, Mr. Basheer Ahmed says that we have not been able to spend more money on the roads, especially in his district. But my submission is that we are fairly keeping our roads good; our trunk roads are not bad and our marketing and second-class roads are not in any way inferior to roads in the United Provinces or Bengal. In the Punjab, as I said last year, they have only two to three thousand miles of roads and they are spending from the petrol surcharge fund for the purpose of surfacing and improving the roads. But that is not our policy and I do not know whether we can satisfactorily pursue that policy in view of the fact that our road mileage is the biggest. Our needs are many and there are many villages which are not touched by roads. The question of the segregation of traffic is a good suggestion provided we have the funds to carry it out. Mr. Luker knows some of our difficulties, having been on the Board of Communications for a term. It may perhaps be possible within the City limits or Municipal limits. But in the case of roads running from Madras to Chicacole or from Madras to Tuticorin, it is very difficult to segregate the traffic in the way suggested by him.

" He has also asked us why we should not tax the bullock cart. ' Why not insist on pneumatic tyres being put on?' he asked. ' They cannot work, as much havoc as is done by the ordinary bullock cart,' he says. Much literature has been pouring on the question and it has even been suggested that it has its own disadvantages and that if we adopt it, we would be following a suicidal policy. Further, I am not sure whether the people in the village parts will take advantage of it as being designed for the betterment of their own economic life. That again is a question which we cannot solve all of a sudden.

" Mr. Luker also wanted the diversion of roads from congested municipalities. Last year we tried it in a certain municipality from out of the Central Road Fund. We have spent about a lakh of rupees and have adopted it in Virudhunagar and certain other

municipalities; again by means of a supplementary Demand I propose to take some money to be devoted for this purpose so that heavy traffic through the important roads may not pass through the heart of congested towns.

"Mr. Luker also referred to the activities of the Board of Communications. He admitted that its functions were purely advisory. It advises the Government of India and it is up to them to examine our proposals and accept them or withhold permission. He also suggested that we must be meeting often and take lively interest in the matter of communications and see that the amount given by the Central Government is spent properly on our roads and bridges. We shall certainly look to it though the function is purely advisory, and see that the Board of Communications takes a more lively interest in the matter of communications.

"Mr. Basheer Ahmed complained about the lapses. Last year we had a departure from our usual policy in transferring sanitary engineering works to the Public Works Department. That entailed some loss of time and there were many matters to be transferred to that department with the result that there was naturally some delay. The Public Works Department is doing its very best to hurry up the water works and drainage schemes and I hope they will be successful in course of time.

"About the question of roads, there is a difficulty in taking it up at odd seasons. He suggested its being taken up in the month of May or June. I have the authority of expert engineers to say that it will not be possible to take up road-work at any time we like. By taking up the works in the months they are being taken up now, we allow the metal to settle down and get fixed up and thus prevent their being washed away during the rains. There is every possibility of their being washed away by reason of the fact that proper time is not allowed to the surface to settle down, if Mr. Basheer's suggestion is adopted. That is why they take up the roads immediately after the rainy season and that is the best season for metalling the roads. There are necessarily some lapses.

"Mr. Abdur Rahman suggested the construction of a road from Cumbum to Ardaveedu in his district. He raised the same question last year and it seems to be a rather exceptional case. I can very well visualize the difficulties of that village in the matter of communications but I am sorry to find that this particular road has not been included in the Vipan Report nor has it been included in the District Board five-year programme of village communications. We have asked the district boards to send us a five-year programme of village communications; but fortunately or unfortunately, the district board has not included that road in their five-year programme of work. Evidently the Kurnool District Board thinks that it is not an urgent matter and so I am unable to compel the district board to undertake it immediately. I

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would suggest to the hon. Member to plead for the inclusion of this work in the programme and then we shall be in a position to help it through. My hon. Friend suggests that if a grant could not be given, at least the Railway Cess Fund may be used for that purpose. There again, Sir, in the matter of spending from that fund, it is necessary that you should get the approval of the district board. When the district board is not willing to take it up, I fear I cannot compel the district board to take it up especially in view of the fact that the district board is supposed to know the needs of the district better than the Minister sitting in the Fort St. George. It is better that he uses his persuasive eloquence with the President of the District Board and gets it included in the five-year programme of work.

"As regards the South Arcot district, to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed referred, I do not think that the Government have ever been partial to any district. But so far as I know, I can say that the district of South Arcot has had a lion's share from the Central Road Fund. As regards the construction of bridges, it is not in the South Arcot district alone that there are unbridged rivers. There are mighty rivers like the Godavari and Kistna and also in Trichinopoly and these rivers have not been bridged. The biggest river in this Presidency, the Godavari, is still unbridged. When that is the case, there is no reason for Mr. Basheer Ahmed to think that in the South Arcot district alone the construction of bridges has not been taken up. My hon. Friend can rest assured that they will get their chance in due course.

"As regards the roads in South Arcot, I can tell my hon. Friend that the roads are not worse there than anywhere else. If he sees the roads in Cuddapah and Kurnool, he will be convinced of the truth of my statement. In fact the roads of South Arcot district are much better and I have myself seen that the roads are very well maintained and indeed I can congratulate the district board on the manintenance of the roads. There is no complaint on that score also. With these remarks I request Mr. Luker to withdraw his cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Out of the days allotted for voting on Demands two days still remain, and the cut motions on the remaining Demands will hardly take up more than a day. To-morrow being Sri Rama Navami day, it is a public holiday, and there is a general desire on the part of hon. Members that this House should enjoy the public holiday. (Sri B. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu: 'Yes, Sir.') And in response to that general desire, I adjourn the House to the day after to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m on Thursday, 30th March 1939.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 1081 asked by Sri K. Venkatappayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 28th March 1939, page 892 supra.]

Imports of Burmese rice and paddy into the Province of Madras together with a comparison of the price of Burma rice and local rice at Madras for the last six months.

Month.	Imports of Burmese rice.	Imports of Burmese paddy.	Imports of paddy and rice in terms of rice.	Wholesale price in rupees per imperial maund of	
				Burmese rice.	Local rice.
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	RS.	RS.
September 1938 ..	18,152	37	18,177	3·22	4·47
October 1938	12,256	5	12,259	3·25	4·47
November 1938 ..	28,693	4	28,696	3·21	4·44
December 1938 ..	23,495	2,261	25,022	3·35	4·57
January 1939	30,442	6,395	34,705	3·33	4·80
February 1939 ..	39,422	4,714	42,565	3·37	4·78

N.B.—(i) In the above figures allowance has been made for the imports of paddy and rice into Cochin distributed within the Cochin and Travancore States.

(ii) The figures of prices given above represent the averages of the prices of four varieties, raw fine Nellore rice, raw medium chinnasamba rice, parboiled sirumani rice, and parboiled vadansamba rice sold in Madras.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 30th March, 1939.

The House met in the Assembly Building, Chepauk, at three f the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI B. SAMBAMURTI) in he Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Purchase of handmade paper for use in the Assembly.

* 1091 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is paper made by hand in this Province or nywhere in India available for use; and

(*b*) whether the Government will consider the question of purhasing the same for purposes of this House?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"(*a*) The Government believe there is in some parts of India a certain quantity of handmade paper available for purchase.

"(*b*) The suggestion will be considered."

lleged re-conversion of certain Christian families at Devakottah to Hinduism.

* 1092 *Q.*—SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Vill the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some Hon. Ministers recently ent messages of congratulations to certain Christian families e-converted to Hinduism at Devakottah, Ramnad district; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to llay the fears of the members of the Christian community in egard to the neutrality of the Government in religious matters?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Certain Harijan families in Devakottah taluk, who had recently adopted Christianity as a result of caste oppression, known by the name of Nattar-Harijan trouble, went back to their old forms of worship and prayer. A formal public ceremony was gone through to mark the re-union of their families with their relatives who had continued in Hinduism

"On this occasion a message was asked of me and I sent one. I presume this would have been asked of me even if I had not been Premier. I do not think my message could possibly amount to a breach of the Government's neutrality in regard to religions. My attachment to Hinduism and my desire for the removal of untouchability are consistent with the greatest regard and love for Christianity and those who profess it. My worshipful attitude towards Christ and His teachings was not inconsistent with the message I sent on this occasion which was not sent as from a Premier, but from a Hindu. I framed my greetings in words which particularly emphasized that the change-over should not be in expectation of any material gain or advantage. I assure the hon. Member that he need have no apprehensions that liberty of faith will be jeopardized by me in any way.

"A copy* of the message I sent is placed on the table. It embodies my personal opinion and has nothing to do with the Government. The same may be said of the other messages."

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Premier what is the reply to clause (b) of the question, which runs thus: 'if so, what steps Government propose to take to allay the fears of the members of the Christian community in regard to the neutrality of Government in religious matters'?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The answer I have given, Sir, ought to allay the fears."

Proposal to abolish tree tax in certain cases in the Tinnevelly district.

*1093 *Q.*—SRI A. R. A. S. DURAISWAMI NADAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the rate and total amount of tree tax collected every year from occupied and unoccupied lands;

(*b*) the approximate annual income per tree that the owner may derive from various trees;

(*c*) whether any special tax on palmyras in patta lands is levied in Tinnevelly district and part of Ramnad district; if so, the rate and total amount collected every year therefrom;

(*d*) whether any tax on coconut and palm trees on occupied lands is levied;

(*e*) if not, the reasons why palmyra trees alone are taxed;

(*f*) whether on lands assessed to palmyra trees the land tax is similar to or lower than that for similar lands without trees:

* Printed as appendix on page 1046 infra.

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(g) whether the Government have received any petition the Landholders' Association of Tinnevelly, praying for the ellation of palmyra tree tax; and

(h) whether the Government would consider the abolition ie palmyra tree tax on the occupied lands?

'HE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) The revenue derived from taxed trees in fasli 1347 was Rs. 3·52 lakhs. The rates of tree-tax generally prevalent in the Province are :—

	ANNAS.		ANNAS.
ımarind ..	8 to 12	4. Iluppai	4 to 5
ango ..	8 to 12	5. Coconut	8 to 12
ıck	8 to 12	6. Palmyra (except in Tinnevelly and two taluks in Ramnad) ..	2

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) A palmyra tax is levied in the Tinnevelly district and in the Sattur and Srivilliputtur taluks of the Ramnad district which formerly formed part of the Tinnevelly district. The rates of the tax range from 2 pies to 8 pies per tree. The total revenue for a year on this account comes to about Rs. 2·13 lakhs.

(d) The answer is in the negative so far as the tracts referred to are concerned.

(e) & (f) The reason is to be found in the revenue history of the tracts. The levy of a tax on palmyra as on private land in addition to the land-tax has been a feature of the revenue of the Tinnevelly district from as far back as historical records go. The palmyra tax is levied mainly on lands which enjoy exceptionally low rates of assessment and the total assessment is not heavier than elsewhere.

y) & (h) The Government have received certain representations and they are under consideration."

Cultivation of tobacco on small scale for personal use.

1094 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the area under cultivation of tobacco in this Province;

(b) whether there is the practice prevalent for ryots to grow l plots of a few cents for personal use; and

(c) whether he has to pay any extra land revenue for the ?

'HE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) The normal area under cultivation of tobacco in this Province is 255,120 acres. The area cultivated in 1937–38 was 294,232 acres.

" (b) The Government have no information.

" (c) Land revenue is fixed on the land with reference to the class and sort of soil and does not depend on the nature of the crop raised. No extra land revenue is leviable for growing any particular crop."

Relief measures proposed to be given to the ryots affected by floods and cyclone in the lankas in East Godavari.

* 1095 *Q.*—Sri KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the lankas in East Godavari district suffered during this fasli on account of late floods and later by the cyclone; and

(b) what help is proposed to be rendered to those ryots by the Government this year?

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The matter is under consideration."

Measures to relieve agricultural distress in South Kanara district.

* 1096 *Q.*—Sri K. R. KARANT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in many parts of the South Kanara district, particularly in areas adjoining the rivers and channels, the first or yenel crop during the current fasli was spoiled and damaged by reason of excessive rains and the consequent flooding of the rivers and channels;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was much greater and almost unprecedented loss caused to the second or suggi crop in many parts of the district by scarcity of water owing to the failure of the rains;

(c) what the approximate extent of the loss was to the cultivators in each of the crops as estimated by Government; and

(d) the relief which the Government propose to give to the landholders in the district?

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) & (b) The Government are not aware that the facts are as stated.

" (c) The question does not arise.

" (d) The general land revenue concessions granted by the Government for fasli 1348 have already been announced in the Press Communiqué, dated 2nd February 1939. The local officers will take the necessary action in regard to the grant

where necessary, of seasonal remissions with reference to the rules on the subject contained in the Board's Standing Orders."

SRI K. R. KARANT :—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report with regard to clauses (a), (b) & (c)?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Yes, it will be done."

Disposal of the machine used for the photo-stat system in the Registration department in South Malabar.

* 1097 Q.—SRI M. P. DAMODARAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) in which districts the photo-stat system has been introduced in the Registration department;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have abolished the photo-stat system in the district of South Malabar;

(c) if the answer to (b) be in the affirmative, what the Government propose to do with the machine that was used for the purpose; and

(d) what the expenditure incurred by the Government was in purchasing the above machine?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"(a) The photo-stat system was introduced in the South Malabar district in 1934.

"(b) Orders have been issued directing the abolition of the system with effect from 1st April 1939.

"(c) The apparatus will be disposed of to the best advantage in the open market.

"(d) About Rs. 8,000 including accessories."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government, in employing the clerks for the copying department, will take back the hands that were sent away, or whether they will employ new clerks on a lower scale of pay?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"I think ordinarily every effort is made by Government in that direction; but in this case what the hon. Member says will be considered."

Date of last repair to the Nattar river in Tanjore district.

* 1098 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state when the Nattar river in Cauvery division, Tanjore district, was repaired last?

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THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"There is no information about the repairs carried out to the river. Repairs necessary to the sluices in the river in connexion with remodelling proposals have been carried out."

Percentage of convicts employed in industries.

* 1099 Q.—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) what percentage of convicts, who were given hard labour, was employed in industries during 1937 or in the year for which accounts are available; and

(b) the reasons for not employing more?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(a) 35.46 per cent of the prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment in 1937 were employed in jail manufacturing industries in 1937. The figures for 1938 are not available.

"(b) The following are the principal reasons:—

(i) There has been a decrease in the committal of long-term prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment. Short-term prisoners cannot be employed for industrial purposes as they require preliminary training, and, by the time they have acquired it, they are almost due for release.

(ii) In some jails the orders for finished goods received from the consuming departments of the Government are not sufficient to keep the prisoners engaged throughout the year, and prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment in such jails have to be given duties such as gardening, and repairing and building work.

(iii) In the Penitentiary, Madras, over 300 prisoners are employed daily in the Government Press, and work in the Government Press is not classified as a jail industry.

(iv) In the Presidency Jail for Women, Vellore, woman prisoners under sentence of rigorous imprisonment cannot all be employed for want of suitable industries.

(v) Prisoners confined in the Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary, and in the Leper annexes attached to the Central Jails at Salem and Trichinopoly and mental defectives and epileptics at the District Jail, Cuddalore, are not available for the industrial purposes.

(vi) Many prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment are unfit for hard labour and some of them are given medium or light labour on the advice of the Medical Officer."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know from the Government whether handspinning is not light labour and if so whether

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it will not be possible to give that work to prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment who cannot be put to hard labour?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have given the answer in full as far as possible."

Mosquito control campaign in municipalities.

* 1100 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether mosquito control campaign has been conducted in any of the municipalities in the Province;

(*b*) if so, what those municipalities are;

(*c*) since how long the campaign has been conducted in the municipalities;

(*d*) how much does each spend for that purpose; and

(*e*) what the result is of the campaign in each municipality?

SRI A. B. SHETTY (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:—"Information has been called for but has not yet been received by the Government."

Measures for the marketing of paddy in the Tanjore district.

* 1101 *Q.*—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state whether the Government have taken or propose to take any measures for the marketing of paddy in Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 890 given during this session. The Provincial Marketing Officer will shortly visit Ceylon to study the market there for rice and to report how the export of rice could be increased."

Forests administered by Government in the Bhadrachalam taluk.

* 1102 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total forest area in the Bhadrachalam taluk;

(*b*) what portion of it is under Government at present; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the whole of it was under [illegible]

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—

		SQ. MLS.
" (a) Reserved forest	...	463
Unreserved land	...	245
Zamindari forest land	...	104
Total	...	812

" (b) 708 square miles.

" (c) The Government have no ready information as Bhadrachalam taluk became part of the Madras Presidency only in 1874."

Proposal to convert the post of the District Labour Officer, Malabar, into an honorary one.

* 1103 *Q.*—SRI E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government, the Commissioner of Labour and the Collector have received representations from responsible persons connected with the Harijan work in Malabar that the post of the District Labour Officer, Malabar, should be made honorary and if so, what the Government have done in the matter; and

(*b*) the volume and the nature of the work which the District Labour Officer, Malabar, is now doing?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri.—" (*a*) Yes ; the question is under consideration.

" (*b*) The District Labour Officer is the Collector's executive assistant with regard to scheduled classes work."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM :—" ఈ గౌరవ ఉద్యోగపద్ధతి హరిజనాభివృద్ధికి తోడ్పడునని ప్రభుత్వమువారు తలచుచున్నారా ? "

SRI B. S. MURTI :—" ఈ విషయమై ఆలోచించబడునని ఇప్పుడే చెప్పినాను. "

SRI K. SHANMUGAM :—" ఈ పద్ధతి ఇతర జిల్లాలలో కూడా ప్రవేశపెట్టుటకు ప్రభుత్వమువారాలోచించుచున్నారా ? "

SRI B. S. MURTI :—" అదికూడా ఆలోచనలోనే యున్నది."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" ఎంతకాలము పట్టును ?"

SRI B. S. MURTI :—" అవసరమైనదానికంటె ఎక్కువకాలము తీసుకోరు."

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Action taken, if any, for improving the condition of the people of this Presidency working as coolies in the Malaya States.

* 1104 *Q.*—Sri A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether any complaint or representation has been received by the Government regarding the plight of the people of this Presidency in the Malaya States, who have been recruited as coolies, and what action they have taken or propose to take in the matter?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"The Government of Madras are aware of the conditions of labour obtaining in Malaya. They are in close touch with the Government of India in this connexion."

Introduction of silk-worm rearing in the Tanjore district as a cottage industry.

* 1105 *Q.*—Sri P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any experiment was done by the Sericulture Expert of the Government for introducing silk-worm rearing in Tanjore district;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the report on the table of the House; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to introduce silk-worm rearing as a cottage industry in the district at an early date?

Sri B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—"(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) At the request of the Secretary, Agricultural Co-operative Society, Negapatam, the Sericultural Expert visited several places in the Tanjore district during March 1936 and came to the conclusion that the climatic conditions in that district are not suitable for the rearing of silk-worms at certain seasons of the year. As a trial, however, a parcel of mulberry cuttings was sent to the Secretary in November 1937 and silk-worm seeds were supplied in January 1939. The question of introducing silk-worm rearing in Tanjore depends on the results of these rearings."

Dumping of foreign rice in this Presidency.

* 1106 *Q.*—Sri P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the dumping of foreign rice in this Presidency; and

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(*b*) whether the Provincial Government addressed the Government of India on this matter?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (*a*) Government are aware of very large imports of rice from outside India.

" (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative."

Particulars regarding silk cloth produced in the Province during 1936–37 *and* 1937–38.

* 1107 *Q.*—SRI K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total production of silk cloth in this Province during 1936–37 and 1937–38;

(*b*) the value of such production; and

(*c*) what portion of it is consumed in the Province and what portion of it is exported by sea and rail?

SRI B. S. MURTI (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri:—" (*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) No information is available except as regards exports. Sixty-eight thousand six hundred and eighteen yards of silk piecegoods valued at Rs. 55,007 were exported during 1936–37 and 104,000 yards valued at Rs. 83,345, during 1937–38."

SRI K. V. R. SWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information? "

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" Yes, Sir."

Control of transport services by the local bodies.

* 1108 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the policy of the Government is with regard to the nationalization of transport services by the local bodies;

(*b*) whether any district board has been permitted to take up the transport service in its area and run it under its control;

(*c*) whether it has been a successful enterprise as a financial undertaking; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to pay any compensation to private transport service owners when the district board takes over the service?

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (Parliamentary Secretary) on behalf of the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—" (*a*) The question of the nationalization of transport services has not so far been considered by Government. Under section 113 of the

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Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, a district board may, with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government, maintain a railway, tramway, motor omnibus or other transport service. The Government will consider favourably applications from local boards for permission to run motor transport service in their areas if the local body concerned is in a position to finance the scheme and the scheme is shown to be profitable. Each application will be considered on its merits.

"(b) The Coimbatore District Board has been granted a monopoly to run a motor-bus service on the Coimbatore-Pollachi bus route.

"(c) The bus service of the Coimbatore District Board commenced on 1st July 1938. The actual gross receipts for the half-year ended 31st December 1938 were Rs. 33,504, as against the estimated receipts of Rs. 32,850 (minimum). The charges were Rs. 25,656 only. The enterprise may be regarded as successful from a financial point of view.

"(d) This is a matter to be settled between the district boards and the owners of the buses concerned."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, with regard to the answer to clause (d), how the Government suggest that the local boards should settle it with the bus-owners? Are the owners of buses entitled to compensation from the district board if the line is taken over from them?"

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The answer to clause (d) does not necessarily presume that there will be liability on the part of district boards."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I wanted to know whether the district boards can take over the bus routes without paying compensation; have Government considered that aspect of the matter, and if so, what conclusions have they come to?"

SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"There has been no occasion so far for considering that question."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether in the case of Coimbatore District Board, who took over a particular line, the District Board paid any compensation to persons who were running buses in that line till then?"

SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"No compensation was paid to the existing bus-owners."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1939-40—*concluded*.

·15 m. MR. SPEAKER:—" The voting of Demands for Grants will now be resumed. Just as last year the Demand on 'Famine' will be taken up last."

DEMAND XXVIII—PENSIONS.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" I beg to move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 76,71,300 *under Demand XXVIII—Pensions.*' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" No cut motion having been moved I put the Demand to the vote."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—" I move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 17,58,200 *under Demand XXIX—Stationery and Printing.*' "

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—" I move, Sir, the cut motion that stands in my name, viz.—

> '*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 17,58,200 *for Stationery and Printing by Rs.* 100.'

(To discuss policy regarding the Government Press.)

" It is rather unusual for a member like myself to speak about the work of the Government Press, but purely out of humanity and a sense of equity, I have got to bring this matter on the floor of this House. I have adverted to this question in some detail in my speech during the general discussion of the Budget and I do not think that there is any need for me to dilate further. But I may point out, Sir, that the workers of the Government Press are very much discontented and there is a general disaffection—I may say a sort of militant discontent—especially with regard to the workers. Categorical grievances have been brought to the notice of the Government and there were certain instances where even strikes were impending and those strikes had to be prevented by the assurances and promises given by the Hon. Prime Minister and by the Minister who was in charge of the affair then. On the whole the question is a serious one and the grievances that have been put forward by the Government Press people have been very legitimate; at least so far as I have known them personally, they have been quite fair. I think the Government, after having laid down their policy with regard to labour

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and the rights of the workers, have not set right this for a long time now. I do not know why the Government have not done it and I am rather inclined to put the whole blame as regards this at the door of the Hon. Minister who was previously in charge of this portfolio. He has been following a *laissez faire* policy of 'let alone' which has been the cause of this considerable disaffection in this department. If he had only taken the opportunity to set right matters with regard to the situation of the workers and gone there and personally taken interest to go into the matter and make enquiries, I am sure, the matter would not have come to this stage. Even now, I do not think it is right on the part of the Government to delay taking action in this matter. The various grievances that have been placed before the Government are there and they know them. It is not necessary for me to dilate upon them. I hear that the piecework system is a very atrocious one which has been sending people to starvation. It is a very bad system that has got to be corrected at once. The piece-workers ought to be absorbed in the permanent service and put on a graded pay. I hear the Superintendent of the Government Press has also recommended the scheme. I do not know why the Government have not looked into the matter.

" Next comes the question of minimum wages. According to the Karachi resolution of the Congress, I think, workers are entitled to Rs. 20 for unskilled labour and Rs. 30 for skilled labour. Nothing has been done by this Government; why?

" As regards the treatment meted out to the workers by superiors, by the masters, I should think, it is highly objectionable. I hear that these people are treated badly, contemptuously, sometimes even brutally. This is a matter which has been brought before the Government, this humane Government which believe in respecting the feelings of the workers. This is a matter which ought to be taken on hand and immediate steps should be taken to remedy this defect. The Government should issue instructions to the people who are above the workers to exercise that tact and that feeling of kindness which is expected from them in dealing with these workers.

" Then with regard to the juveniles. I hear that they are paid only Rs. 10 while according to the Government Order, they are entitled to Rs. 15 when they become adults. But they are not paid Rs. 15 when they become adults. I do not know why these things should occur.

" With regard to the distribution of work, I hear much favouritism is shown; this is not fair. Nobody is given a fair deal in these matters, with regard to promotions, etc. We have glaring instances where merits have been sent to the wall and claims overlooked. In the interests of the workers all these things should be set right.

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" The Hon. Premier, when he was not in office, had an occasion to preside over a meeting of these workers in the Sivagnanam Park. There he sympathetically dealt with the whole question. He said that the Congress had no power and that he would do everything in his power to set right matters if it came to power. He said that the largest industrial concern under the Government was the Government Press and that it ought to be a credit to the Government from the point of view of treatment of the workers and from the point of view of the work done and that it should be a model press to all the people outside. I should like all these things to be translated into action while the Congress Ministry is in power; and it ought to see that the whole thing is set right and it becomes a credit to the Government. The Government are saying that they are for internal settlement of disputes with regard to trade disputes, while they have disputes in their own household. I would like to see that this dispute is not continued and I hope that some internal settlement will take place earlier, if the Government could do anything.

" Another point which I would like to advert to is the way in which the General Secretary of this Workers' Union has been treated by the Government. I do not say that this Government is responsible for this treatment. I think it was the previous Government that has done very badly with regard to this poor gentleman. He has after all been doing only his legitimate work of espousing the cause of the workers of the Government Press. He has been victimised. He has been dismissed for no fault of his own, simply because he espoused the cause of the workers legitimately. According to the present Government people who have taken part in the civil disobedience movement before seventeen years have been reinstated, and Police officers who have resigned have been given pension after twenty years. I do not know why this employee of the Government Press who is the General Secretary of the Union should not be reinstated while all considerations have been shown with regard to the other persons who have resigned or have been dismissed from service for taking part in the civil disobedience movement before twenty years or so. I would like to see this injustice set right. This gentleman, for no fault of his own, for merely taking part in organizing these workers, was dismissed. He has put in twenty years of service and he is now helpless and suffering. Of course this is an individual case. The Government might say that these things ought to reach them through proper channels. I state this simply as an instance of a grievance for taking part in the organization of the workers and trying to espouse their cause. This is a matter which I hope will receive the consideration of the Government; the man should not be victimized and the injustice done to him should be righted.

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" These are the few points that I wanted to bring before the House and with these few words I move my cut motion."

* SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—" I am glad, Sir, that the cut 3
motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, has given the P
House an opportunity not only to know at first hand the grievances of the workers employed in the Government Press but also to get an idea of what the present Government have done for improving the conditions of service and to recognize the right of the workers of the Press to be members of their trade union. The Government Press Workers' Union has been in existence for nearly fifteen years. The Government did not at any time agree to recognize that Union. The previous Governments were refusing to recognize that Union for the reason that Mr. Ayyaswami Ayyar, to whom Mr. Krishna Rao referred, was its Secretary. It must be recognized that the present Government alone gave recognition to this union with Mr. Ayyaswami Ayyar, the victimized worker as the Secretary. I should, Sir, on this occasion gratefully acknowledge the Government's recognizing the Government Press Workers' Union with the victimized worker as the Secretary. There can be no doubt that the present Government have been trying to understand the difficulties of the workers. But I must confess, Sir, that they have not been prompt and expeditious in redressing the grievances of the workers. For example, Sir, the employees of the Government Press have been suffering for the last many years under the piecework system which has been condemned for long. The Hon. the Premier has condemned it in unmistakable terms on an occasion when he addressed the employees of the Government Press. The Hon. the Premier compared that system to a donkey. I am confident that the abolition of the piecework system is under the serious consideration of the Government and that they are also considering proposals to introduce a proper system in place of the piecework system. As far as the workers of the Government Press are concerned they do not want the piecework system in any form or measure. They want the complete abolition of the piecework system and its substitution by a rational, reasonable, just and fair system of guaranteed wages.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, referred also to another matter. Workers doing the same class of work are classified as 'inferior' workers and 'superior' workers. For example, there are two grades of binders in the Government Press. One grade carries a salary of Rs. 15 with an increment of Re. 1 annually and goes up to Rs. 30. There is another grade starting at Rs. 15, carrying an increment of Re. 1 and going up to Rs. 20. The employees in both these grades do the same binding work. The one is regarded as 'superior' and the other is regarded as 'inferior.' When a man is in the inferior grade he is entitled to a pension only of Rs. 6 and not to half of the amount he draws as salary for a month at the time of his retirement.

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" The mover of the cut motion referred also to the necessit for introducing suitable minimum wages in the Governmen Press. The Congress has declared its policy that the worker should be assured of a minimum wage of at least Rs. 30 pe mensem. But, Sir, in the Government Press we find that eve skilled workers are drawing Rs. 20 and below. The union ha been demanding that the unskilled workers should be given a minimum of Rs. 20 a month and the skilled workers a minimun of Rs. 30.

" It is often stated that the cost of printing in the Governmen Press is very high. It is not due by any means to high wage paid to workers. It is due to the top-heavy administration. know, Sir, that the present Minister in charge of the departmen has taken up in right earnest the question of redressing th grievances of the workers and the workers are very hopeful tha their grievances will be soon redressed.

" While speaking on this motion, Sir, I wish to refer to th Stationery Stores also. In Bombay and in some other Province there is only one department for both Stationery and Printing But in Madras we have two different departments involvin unnecessary wastage in our expenditure. While speaking on th last Budget I suggested the amalgamation of both the depar ments in the interests of economy. I hope the proposal wi receive the serious attention of the Government. In the St tionery Stores skilled and educated workers doing technical wor maintaining registers, are classed as lascars and denied the prope wages to which they are entitled by virtue of the work they d Regarding this matter the union has submitted a memorandu of grievances to the Hon. Minister and he has been pleased t discuss it with the deputation from the Stationery Worker Union. I can assure Mr. Krishna Rao that the present Gov ernment are not only sympathetic to the workers in the Governmen Press and the Stationery Stores, but they are also trying to ameli rate their conditions. But what is wanted is greater promptness o the part of the Government which I hope they will develop as dela in such matters is not desirable.

" As there are also hon. Members present here who do not know English I wish to make a few observations in Tamil also.

" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே. நான் ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொன்னதைச் சுருக் மாகத் தமிழில் சொல்லுகிறேன். தாங்கள் தமிழில் பேசுவதற்கு, தா பாஷையில் பேசுவதற்கு, அனுமதி கொடுத்தது ஆங்கிலம் தெரியாதவர் ளுக்கு மிகவும் சௌகரியமாயிருக்கிறது. இதுவரையில் கவர்ன்மெண் அச்சுக்கூடத் தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகள் கவனிக்கப்படாமலிருந்தன இதற்குக் காரணம் இதற்கு முன்னிருந்த கவர்ன்மெண்டுகளின் போக்கு அமைப்புமேயாகும். இப்பொழுது காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஏற்பட்டதற்கு பிறகுதான் சர்க்கார் அச்சுக்கூடத் தொழிலாளர் சங்கம் அங்கீகரிக்க பட்டது. இதற்குமுன் இந்தச் சங்கத்தைச் சர்க்கார் அங்கீகரித்துக்கொ

ளாமலிருந்தார்கள். ஆகையால் இந்த கவர்ன்மெண்டு, தங்கள் அச்சுக்கூடத் தொழிலாளர்கள் குறைகள் எல்லாவற்றையும் உடனே நீக்காமலிருந்தபோதிலும் சங்கத்தை அங்கீகரித்துக்கொண்டு தொழிலாளர் குறைகளைத் தீர்க்கத் தக்க முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது, என்பதை மறுக்க முடியாது. காலதாமதத்தாலேயே தகராறுகள் உண்டாகின்றன. தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தமும் ஏற்பட்டது. காலதாமதமேற்பட்டிருப்பதால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கவனிக்கவில்லை என்று யாரும் சொல்லவில்லை. தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு மாதம் முப்பது ரூபாய்க்குக் குறையாது சம்பளமிருக்க வேண்டுமென்பதை எல்லோரும் ஒப்புக்கொள்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் சர்க்கார் அச்சுக்கூடத்தில் இருபது ரூபாய்க்குக் குறைந்த சம்பளம் பலர் வாங்குகிறார்கள். திறமையுள்ளவர்களுக்கு மாதம் முப்பது ரூபாயும், திறமை குறைந்தவர்களுக்கு இருபது ரூபாயும் ஆரம்பச்சம்பளம் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

“இன்னும் பீஸ் ஒர்க் திட்டம் (Piece work system) என்ற ஒரு அநியாய திட்டம் கவர்ன்மெண்ட் பிரஸ் தொழிலாளர்களை பாழ்படுத்திக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. அதனுடைய கஷ்டத்தை சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். கவர்ன்மெண்டார் இந்த பீஸ் ஒர்க் திட்டத்தை அடியோடு ஒழித்து தொழிலாளர்கள் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்தி செய்து நியாயஞ் செய்ய வேண்டியது அத்தியாவசியம். ஆனால் சர்க்கார் என்ன சொல்லுகிறார்கள். நாங்கள் குறைந்த சம்பளத்தை ஏற்படுத்துகிறோம். அதற்குப் பிறகு வேலைக்குத் தக்கவாறு போனஸ் (bonus) கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். எந்த அளவிலும் ரூபத்திலும் பீஸ் ஒர்க்குத்திட்டம் கூடாதென்பது அச்சுக்கூடத் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய கோரிக்கை. இந்த இலாக்காவுக்கு அமைச்சராக இருக்கும் ஸ்ரீமான் ராமநாதன் அவர்கள், இந்த இலாக்காவை தன் கையில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டபின் சர்க்கார் அச்சுக்கூடத்தையும் (Stationery Stores) ஸ்டேஷனிரி ஸ்டோர்ஸையும் போய் நேரில் பார்த்தார்கள். தொழிலாளர் குறைகளைத் தெரிந்துகொண்டு அவைகளைத் தீர்க்க வேண்டிய வகையில் முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இந்த முயற்சியை துரிதமாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். கவர்ன்மெண்டு அச்சுக்கூடத் தொழிலாளர்கள் பல வருஷங்களாக கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஏற்பட்ட பிறகு அவர்களுடைய குறைகள் சீக்கிரம் தீர்க்கப்படும் என்று நம்பிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். காலதாமதமில்லாமல் இந்தக் குறைகளைத் தீர்க்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். ஆகையினால் காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு ஒன்றுஞ்செய்யவில்லை என்றாவது அவர்களுடைய கஷ்ட நிலைமையைக் கவனித்து அதை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய முயற்சிகள் எடுக்கவில்லை என்றாவது சொல்லுவது பொருத்தமல்ல. அக்குறைகளைத் திருப்திகரமாய் காலதாமதமன்னியில் தீர்க்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

* THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—“It is rather peculiar, Sir, that the cut motion on this Demand was moved by a representative of the landed aristocracy. It is a welcome sign of the times that a zamindar has turned a labour leader.” (Laughter.)

SRI G. KRISHNA RAO:—“On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I wish to say that I moved the cut motion under this Demand only on principles of equity to the workers.”

* THE HON. SRI S. RAMANATHAN:—“Not only on principles of equity, Sir, but also in the discharge of his duties as a

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member of this Assembly, I am glad he has come forward to speak on behalf of labour and if I read the signs aright it is a happy augury for the future. But, if the intention is to push the Government in the direction in which they are already inclined, towards amelioration of the condition of the workers, to an extreme so that the Government Press itself will become a losing proposition, I beg to tell him that we are well aware of the danger. We shall not fall into the trap. We are so identified with the cause of the workers that we are straining every nerve to do all that is just by them, but, we shall not fall into the danger of working this Government Press which is one of the largest in South India —in fact, in the whole country—so as to put it to a loss. After all, I would ask the workers to consider and the representatives of the workers to remember, that it is to their interests that this press works successfully. Just now, printing work done on behalf of the Government is only partly done in the Government Press. Part of it has yet to be done through private agencies. I have heard it from authoritative sources on behalf of the workers that they would like the Government to get more and more of the printing through the Government Press, thereby giving more employment to workers under the Government. If that desirable aim is to be attained I invite the workers to co-operate with the Government not only in demanding what is justly due to themselves but in ensuring that the Government Press works as a business proposition. It is only then that the press can be expanded. Already, Sir, it is well known that great reorganization is going on in the Government Press. We have put up a very costly building and machinery is being transferred from the Mount Road office to the new buildings at the Mint street and affairs at the press are in a state of flux just now. That is one of the reasons why the demands of the workers have not been promptly enquired into.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, was accusing my Colleague, Dr. Subbarayan, of *laissez faire*. I will assure him it is not that. The matter is being enquired into and it is in a process of delicate negotiations between the labour union on the one hand and the Government on the other. I am sorry it is not possible for me to give exact details as to what the Government's final conclusions will be in regard to the matter. I can only assure the members of the House that the question of ameliorating the condition of the workers not only in the Government Press but also in the Stationery Stores is engaging the very anxious consideration of the Government at the present moment. In this connexion my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao went to the extreme and put forward certain demands which have not been made even on behalf of the labour union. He has asked for the reinstatement of the General Secretary of the union, who has been sent out

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of service several years back, in fact, I think eight or nine years ago. Even the labour union which has formulated the demands on behalf of the workers, has not put forward the reinstatement of the Secretary as one of the demands. My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishna Rao, is out-Heroding Herod, but I am sorry his proposition is not before the Government and I am sorry I cannot go into that question just now.

" In regard to the Stationery Stores I have already said that the question of the workers in the Stationery Stores is also under consideration. As has been pointed out by the member representing the Labour Constituency in this House, I have already received a deputation of workers of the Stationery Stores and their grievances are also being enquired into.

" I would once again emphasize that this department being in the nature of a large commercial undertaking requires a great deal of the assistance and co-operation on the part of the workers and if the workers extend that co-operation, I may assure them that they may depend upon the Government to do justice. I appeal to the hon. Member to withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—MISCELLANEOUS.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—I beg to move, Sir— 3-4 p.m

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,72,800 under Demand XXX—Miscellaneous.' "

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" If you would permit me, Sir, I would just like to say a few words on one of the items under the Budget. "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think it is quite unnecessary."

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" I am speaking in support of the Demand and I have not given notice of any cut motion. "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the Government do not require much support."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I have to make a submission, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I am just talking to Mr. Appadurai Pillai. No submission is needed. "

SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" I would like to put in an appeal in regard to one of the items."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes; within five minutes."

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* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" One of the items included in this Demand is Donations for Charitable purposes. Under this item provision is made in connexion with the Madras Vigilance Association. With reference to the work of that association I would like to say a few words. There is a provision made for next year of Rs. 8,500. That is slightly less than the provision made in the current year, viz., Rs. 9,500. The vigilance association is doing very useful work and it has just begun to work on a considered plan and has engaged a rescue home in a respectable locality of Madras. The thanks of the public are due to the Government for having recognized this work and for having made a provision and it is not with a view to criticize that but to appeal for more funds that I am speaking. The rescue home that has been opened in a decent locality in Madras is prepared to receive cases from the mufassal and therefore that home has to be sufficiently staffed and furnished. For that purpose, the amount that is granted by Government seems to be inadequate. If it is not out of the way, I would like to appeal to the Premier to increase the provision so that the vigilance association may be enabled to put up a separate building to be used as a rescue home. Rescue homes in the case of minor girls, who are rescued from the life of infamy and degradation, have to fulfil certain peculiar conditions. They require a certain amount of privacy, accommodation to go about freely for the purpose of relaxation and exercise and also for the purpose of carrying on some handiwork. It is not desirable to keep them idle. They have to be kept in work in such things as weaving, tape-making, rattan work and such light work that would keep them fully engaged so that they might not be allowed to brood over their fate or lose any confidence in their reformation. For that purpose it is necessary to have an enlarged home so that the association may go ahead with its reformation work. There are 26 municipalities in the Presidency in which this Act is in force. But in no town has a rescue home been established. The Madras Home is prepared to take cases from the mufassal municipalities, provided the municipalities make a contribution. If Government should take that into account and make the municipalities pay a reasonable contribution, the vigilance association may be grateful for that help and its scope can be further expanded. The importance of the work will be seen from the fact that within the short time the Act has been in force 250 cases have been treated and out of them over 50 have been completely reclaimed. The patients have been carefully handled and have been radically cured both physically and mentally. It is a tremendous piece of work which the association has undertaken under the guidance of its very able Secretary a cultured Indian lady who has been going throughout the Province and who is being helped by other subordinate officers. With that object in view, I appeal to the

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Hon. Premier to increase the provision and if possible to provide the association with a rescue home of its own."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I am very grateful, Sir, for this rather very peculiar privilege of hearing the appreciation from the Opposition with regard to the particular work done by the Government. All the suggestions that have been made by the hon. Member will be taken into account. Any reduction that is noticed in the Budget provision is due to economies, which did not interfere with the progress of the work itself. Of course, the Government would like to spend, if possible, more money if the results are to be available and we will make our best efforts in that direction. I hope the Demand will be passed by the House."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON IRRIGATION.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 4,63,700 *under Demand XXXI—Capital Outlay on Irrigation.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE HON. SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 20,000 *under Demand XXXII—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRIC SCHEMES.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 61,96,400 *under Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Electric Schemes.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIV—CIVIL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 17,62,900 *under Demand XXXIV—Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.*'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I beg to *sions.'* "

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 100 *under Demand XXXV—Commuted Value of Pensions.'* "

" The explanation and the memorandum make it clear why I am asking only a token sum. May I add, Sir, with your permission that this subject has been so thoroughly discussed before on many occasions that I hope the Members will not simply raise the old questions, because I may have then to repeat old answers."

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I shall certainly respond to the appeal made by the Hon. the Premier. The question, however old it might be, is always capable of raising fresh and fresh issues. So he will permit us to place before him fresh factors that have come to play. One thing has to be stated even at the outset. Apart from the economic reasons given for the abolition of the commutation of pensions, the reasons given have not been convincing. The Hon. the Premier contended that it was in the interests of those persons who were eligible for commutation of pensions that he took this very serious and drastic step. Even those parties are not admitting that what the Hon. the Premier has done is in their interest. On the other hand, Sir, I would like to state that the abolition of this commutation of pensions has created a serious dislocation in the domestic budget of the employees of Government, who are about to retire or have already retired.

Now, Sir, the Hon. the Premier will be pleased to consider only one aspect of this question. It is no use breaking against the hard stone. It does not bring forward any water or spring as in the case of Moses, and there is no good expecting any miracles at this stage. They are all pathetic appeals that can be made to persons. The pensioners are not persons who want to live luxurious lives out of the commutations that they may get. It is on account of those who are put to hardship and suffering. Now, Sir, on a certain day, the Hon. the Premier issued orders that no commutations will be made. The Government revised the Fundamental Rules and said that Government servants must not expect these concessions any longer. It is true that this commutation has been a concession which has been age-long and it has always been worked in a liberal spirit, and that spirit has been progressively advantageous to the Government pensioners. Originally it was a small proportion. But later on it was made one-third and later still it became half. At the time when the abolition came into existence, half the pension of the pensioner could be commuted. Now, Sir, the Hon. the Premier would think and even say that the commutation amount is spent in merely useless ventures,

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which are not yielding any profit and that as the money is wasted away, the Government are made to pay. That is what has been said. I want to impress upon the Premier that in the commutation of pensions, the Government do not lose any money. When the commutation takes place, there is a return by way of non-payment of pensions to that extent. And even so, the Government themselves worked the commutation question only on the system of life insurance. Just as the insurance companies are carrying on insurance business with a view to make profit, the Government allowed the commutation of pensions only after 55 years of service. It was therefore not at all disadvantageous to the Government in any sense of the term, except that they had to allot 10 to 15 lakhs for this purpose. But it must be remembered that this sum of 10 to 15 lakhs is a mere trifle in a Budget of 16 or 17 crores of rupees, if you bear in mind the fact that this is to be granted to persons who have rendered faithful service for 30 or 35 years and whose life-blood has been sapped by this service for the Government. Is this sum a big thing for the Government, Sir? Moreover, the humane aspect of it has been lost sight of. I wish we had some more humanists in our land so that some of these facts could be appreciated and recognized. 4 p.m

"Sir, on a certain date the Government declared that there would be no more commutations allowed. There were one or two intricacies involved in fixing the date for this purpose. Whatever it is, it cannot be made to apply to those cases in which all the preliminaries to be gone through in regard to commutation of pensions had been gone through and it remained only for the Government to sanction the same. I contend, Sir, that in cases of that type wherein the Government had merely to pay the money, it was not right or fair or equitable to say: 'Though we have called upon you to go before a medical board and obtain a certificate and you have done so, we cannot pay.' I say, Sir, there is something to be said against that attitude. I will not say that those persons who have obtained medical certificates after incurring a large expenditure at least should be compensated and commutation must be paid. I will not put it on that basis. I put it on the basis that there will be hardly 20 or 30 cases of persons who have filed their pension papers with the Government and are actually awaiting sanction of commutation with plans for the expenditure of the same on the unavoidable necessaries of the family, ready in their hands. It is those cases that really deserve consideration. Sir, you have passed an order in regard to the commutation of pensions. Is that order one like the Law of the Medes and Persians? It should not be so. Wherever there are hard cases of the kind I have pointed out, I want the Hon. the Premier to relax the rule and do what he can for them. Theirs is a just case. I do not want the entire order to be cancelled. I do not want the Government to provide the usual amount under

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this head 'Pensions.' I only submit that the Government may be pleased to consider the cases of those few people who have done everything on their part to deserve commutation. Those cases may be considered from a humane point of view and some concessions shown to them at least, if not to all persons who ask for commutation hereafter. With these few words I move the cut motion, viz.,

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 100 *for Commuted Value of Pensions by Re.* 1.' "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion moved by hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed. If there is anything with regard to which the Opposition in this House and the critics outside can characterize the action of the Government as wrong and definitely wrong, it is their action in regard to this matter. In the current year's Budget the Government provided last year a certain sum of money for commutation of pensions and the House granted the same. It is certainly not proper, to say the least, or just on the part of the Government to make any alteration in that allotment by executive action and without the approval of this House. The Hon. the Premier has taken out a certain sum of money from the amount provided for a certain definite purpose and added it on to the balances in order to reduce the deficit in the year. Even from the financial point of view I am afraid I have to characterize this as financial vandalism.

" Mr. Speaker, apart from that aspect of the matter, let us look at the merits of the question. Persons who have been in the service of the Government on some definite understanding that they would receive pensions and that at their option a certain portion of the same could be commuted, are now told at the end of their service that they would no more get commutation. If the Government wanted to abolish commutation once for all, they should have waited till the beginning of the next financial year to adumbrate that policy. When introducing the Budget now under consideration the Hon. the Finance Minister could have adumbrated this policy giving reasons for its adoption and justifying the absence of provision for commutation of pensions. No such thing was done. The Hon. the Premier, however, in the course of one of his speeches did give an indication that the commutation of pensions might be abolished. Apart from that, on this matter, he has not taken the House into his confidence and has not obtained the assent of the House to the course adopted by him, Sir, what is the result of this step? Government servants who expected—at least those for whom provision had been made, expected—that they would get their pensions commuted were sorely disappointed. Sir, the Hon. the Premier made certain observations in connexion with this matter and those observations, if I may be permitted to say so, have added insult to injury, because he has not taken this step

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for any understandable reason. These servants of the Government want commutation for a definite object; they have their debts to discharge which they have incurred while in service; and they have to make provision for the education of their children, for the marriage of their daughters and for other very important responsibilities of theirs. For these purposes they naturally expect to get a lump sum payment by commuting their pension. They are now deprived of that and are told that in their interests commutation has been abolished. I think their interests are known better to them than to anybody else. It may be in the interest of the Government and for the sake of balancing the budget that the Government have taken this step. Well, instead of taking upon their own shoulders the responsibility for doing this injustice to their employees, it is not proper, to say the least, that the Government should tell these Government servants that it has been done in their interests. How is it in their interests? It is true that a person, when he retires after 55 years of age, will get full pension month after month, if it is not commuted, and can live in comfort throughout his life. But there are very hard cases of persons who would, for very definite reasons, like to commute their pensions in order to discharge certain of their responsibilities. It is not everybody that commutes his pension to the extent permissible. It is not everybody that commutes even one-fourth of his pension. Only such of those as require lump sums for meeting their inescapable obligations seek to get their pensions commuted. They may be expected to know their responsibilities and their requirements better than anybody else. That being the case, to say that the abolition of commutation of pensions is done in their own interest is certainly not correct.

" I find from the financial estimates that the Government had to make more provision for pensions than they would have to if the commutation system had not been abolished. They have provided 3 or 4 lakhs more under pensions while taking away the usual 13 or 14 lakhs for commutation. Thus it will be seen that they saved by this arrangement only about 8 or 9 lakhs. [s it worth while to change the entire policy of the Government n this respect for saving this sum and that without even getting he approval of the House for this step? It is certainly not pro›er. My hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed referred to hard cases. Iaving decided arbitrarily at the very close of the financial year › abolish commutation of pensions, should you not have taken ıto account what your own officers have done? Your officers ısued orders, received communications from a certain number f your men who have retired and asked them to undergo medical ‹amination to satisfy the rules in regard to commutation. After l this was done and when their papers were pending with the ›cretariat, there comes the ukase from the Hon. the Premier at the medical examinations should be stopped. Well, let the

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medical examination of persons who have not been so examined be stopped. Why should it apply to persons who have already been examined for this purpose? The order is certainly not legal so far as the persons whose medical examination has been com-
15 pleted already are concerned. At least the cases of those persons
m who under the orders of the Government were medically examined should have been considered favourably. They should have considered their cases, because the order of abolition of commutation of pensions was issued subsequent to the previous order directing the pensioners to undergo medical examination. There must be some justice somewhere. A thoroughly arbitrary decision does not become a good Government. I hope the Government will revise their orders and extend their help to these hard cases and see that thereby justice is done to these people."

* SRI G. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, I want to say only one word about the proposal to abolish commutation of pensions. I have spoken about this question on previous occasions also. At least when the Prime Minister brought forward this question for the first time on the floor of this House he said that it was his personal view but that the Government did not share his view; and now within a year from that date what was his view at that time has now become the policy of the whole Government. Evidently the House is anxious to know as to how he would justify his action now, and how a change of psychology in the Hon. the Premier has become the policy of the Government now.

" I think the Hon. Premier is bound to convince the House with very good reasons which he might have had behind this proposition of abolishing commutation of pensions. As far as we are concerned, at least on this side of the House, we were not convinced of the reasons given by the Hon. Premier, saying that all the money taken by these pensioners by way of commutation was wasted by them, and that they got into trouble afterwards and were not properly treated by their wives and children. All that is not quite a strong argument against the commutation system. I would like the Hon. Prime Minister to give us sound reasons as to why the Government have abolished the commutation of pensions permanently. So, I would request the Hon. Prime Minister to take the House into his confidence and tell us how this policy has become permanent at the present moment. I do not know what has happened so suddenly and why the Government should be so hasty in bringing about this change. If the amount which is going to be saved by the abolition of the commutation of pensions is only 10 or 11 lakhs, it is only a drop in the ocean in a budget of 16 or 17 crores of rupees. I would request the Hon. Minister to see that this does not become a matter of mere economy. Let the policy followed be based on some good reason, a convincing reason, and a reason which may be accepted by the people who have served the Government for a period of thirty years and who, at

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the end of their career, want to spend the rest of their days in peace and without any harassment, by commuting a part of their pension.

"I think there is another point to be considered in regard to this matter. I think some of the officers have made representations to the Government in connexion with this matter. Do Government still think that they are right in taking away the right of commuting one's pension without bringing forward any alternative plan such as a provident fund or some such thing? I think this is being done in all railways and very many commercial institutions. Should the Government fall behind these institutions? The officers may be told whether the Government have any proposals for bringing forward any provident fund scheme or not. I think this is a matter which deserves the attention of the Government. To one or two questions that I previously put on this subject, I did not get any satisfactory answers from the Hon. Premier. So I would request him now to let us know if the Government have got any alternative method of dealing with this problem, so that the poor officers may not be completely disappointed at the end of their terms. It was only the other day in a statement made by the Prime Minister that he voiced the idea that the officers are not entitled to any assistance or relief by way of commutation of pensions.

"I want the Prime Minister to take particularly the position of the non-gazetted officers into consideration. They are poor men who started their lives very humbly and after a tardy time-scale limit of 25 or 30 years they rise to Rs. 150 or 200 and their only consolation is to have a part of the amount of their pensions commuted at the end of their term of office. That is the kind of consolation which they are now having. Sir, in the absence of a commutation system of pensions is there any other concession given to them to enable these hard-worked people who have spent the greater part of their lives in the service of Government to carry on their remaining years in peace and contentment? I would like to appeal to the Hon. Minister to bestow some consideration on this matter. These Government servants, while they are in service, cannot borrow or lend, or speculate, or carry on any supplementary activities. When that is their trouble and when they have worked all these years under such restrictions, I think their claim should have received greater attention at the hands of the Government. It is a grave hardship to Government servants to scrap the existing system of giving a small commuted amount from their pensions. At any rate, I have heard recently that many people who were expecting that their pensions could be commuted are undergoing great mental sufferings after this order was passed. I am sure the Hon. Minister will understand how their plans and hopes must have been frustrated. Of course it may be said that this is all sentimental. But I hope we are all governed by sentiments to some extent at least. At least the

officers of the Government feel that the attitude taken by the Government is very hard and some of them have gone to the extent of feeling that there is no difference between service and servitude. I would request the Hon. Prime Minister to be more considerate in this matter."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, from the appeal made by the Hon. the Premier, it appears to be certain that the Government are not going to budge an inch from the stand they have taken on this question. But still I feel that we should express our feelings and opinion on this important question which concerns the future of Government servants. Sir, except perhaps the very few Government servants who are drawing fat salaries, a large majority of them are not, I know, able to save anything out of their pay. They will have to spend for the education of their children, and they have to maintain their official position and dignity. We must all think that every Government servant is honest and is working honestly and zealously under the Government. We cannot place a premium on their dishonesty; we cannot say that every Government servant is dishonest. That being so, the question of commutation of pensions becomes all the more important. The option of commuting pensions should be given to the large majority of Government servants. When they retire from service, they may not have left any saving, and they may require money for celebrating the marriages of their daughters and incur such other expenditure; and so they may like to have lump sums. It is quite possible also—it generally happens in the majority of cases—that a Government servant may not survive the allotted span of ' three score and ten ' and may die within 10 or 15 years after retirement. If we consider all these points, it becomes necessary to consider the plight of Government servants not only from the point of view of finance but also from the point of view of humanity. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, has stressed that point very well and I need not dilate much on it. I would take this opportunity of strongly appealing to the Hon. Premier to reconsider the decision he has already arrived at and give the option of commuting pensions to hard-worked Government servants who have devoted the best part of their life to the service of the Government."

* KHAN BAHADUR P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB BAHADUR:— " Mr. Speaker, one of the previous speakers made an appeal to the human kindness of the Hon. Premier. Knowing him as a great lawyer in his own days, I would like to appeal to his legal acumen in this matter. The right to receive pension and the right to commute pensions is earned by a pensioner after 30 or 35 years of hard and loyal service. Knowing all the conditions under which he is employed and knowing that he will be entitled to a certain amount of pension and that he will also be entitled to commute a portion of his pension, he enters service. I ask

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under those circumstances, whether it is right or proper, that Government should step in and declare by one stroke of the pen that he shall not have the right to commute the pension which he has earned after 30 or 35 years of hard labour. I think a sense of justice, equity and conscience ought to tell one that this should not have been done."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, I am smothered by compliments which are generally called left-handed. But I shall proceed with the point itself without trying to deal with personal matters of this kind. One of the important objections taken was that the Legislature, having sanctioned the Demand for commutation of pensions, it was not open to the Government to pass an order like this and that it was either illegal or unconstitutional, or nearly so. That seems to be the argument put forward by my friend, Mr. Hameed Khan. I submit that the financial statement and the grants given by the House do not amount to a curtailment of the right of the Government to decide from time to time whether the expenditure up to the limit sanctioned by the House is to be incurred or not. In fact, if the language of the formula employed in asking for grants is examined, it will be found that, in asking for sanction of a grant, it is always stated that a sum not exceeding so much, for such and such an expenditure be granted. It cannot amount to either illegality or anything like it for the Executive to decide on a policy either of full expenditure or of part expenditure or of retrenchment within the limits sanctioned. I am prepared to concede the point that had there been a discussion in the House and a definite conclusion arrived at directing the Executive to follow a certain policy and we had failed to convince the House of the correctness of our policy, then there would have been something for us to explain. But on this matter, there has been, I venture to remind the House, no such mandate or decision. On the contrary, I have given, as was admitted by Mr. Hameed Khan, sufficient notice again and again that this matter had been agitating the mind of the Government, that my own view was inclined against this commutation and that the Government would decide the matter on a consideration of all the bearings of the case. Therefore I do not think there has been anything which can be called as even approaching to a variation of the policy which the Legislature itself has sanctioned.

" Then the point has been raised by Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib that there is a legal right infringed in this matter. In that connexion he forestalled any possible reply that I might give by saying that that reply should be credited not to the argument being correct but should be debited to my being a lawyer. I am sorry that he should have thought it fit to begin like that for it makes the whole debate meaningless. If I convince, then it is to be put aside as a legal argument. If I do not convince, then

the other side has won. It is something like ' Heads I win, tails you lose.' If I give good arguments, then it is mere legalism. If I fail to give good arguments, then the other side has made out its point. That is not quite fair.

" Apart from this, let us examine the merits of the case. Is it a right? I submit, Sir, that no pensioner has ventured to put forward the argument that the refusal to commute his pension into a lump sum is an infringement of a right. At no time was it conceived as a right. All that was promised to the pensioners when the system was introduced was that they could apply for commutation and if the Government found it possible or convenient, the pension would be commuted in that manner. There is no right that has been earned for commuting the pension. If there had been any ground for this argument I am certain that before either Mr. Hameed Khan or Mr. Basheer Ahmed or Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib rose to speak here, many a pensioner would have dragged the Government to Court. There is no difficulty about that. The officers concerned have keen enough interest and keen enough lawyers to help them to put the matter into Court. There is no case that it is a right that has been infringed.

" Then Sir, coming to the equities of the matter, Mr. Basheer Ahmed's first point was this: that certain persons at least have applied and their expectations have been raised, that they have gone even up to the point of having themselves medically examined and that these cases at least should have been favourably considered. Sir, I submit that at no time can we avoid marginal injustice like this. I frankly admit that possibly expectations were raised and a certain number of people were disappointed. But at no time can we escape this kind of disappointment in any executive matter. For instance if a certain new scale is fixed, certain people who just then expected to be promoted are disappointed. We have got a number of district munsifs who were about to become subordinate judges, but just then lower scales of salaries for subordinate judges were introduced and they were disappointed. We cannot call every disappointed expectation an injustice, for it can never be avoided. No change is possible without a few people being affected who come in the margin of time which lapses between the consideration of the policy and the decision on that matter. We cannot avoid this margin and these few people will have to be disappointed.

" But then, Sir, we have returned their medical examination fees. But I am not unaware, Sir, that though we have returned the medical fees, these gentlemen who were expecting large sums of money might probably have spent more than the fees which they would get back. It is possible, I say, because a man expecting Rs. 20,000 does not think much of spending a thousand rupees in order to get that amount. Mr. Krishna Rao let the cat out of the

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bag, so to say, when he referred to speculation about a thing that has now been denied to these people. But those are the very reasons which prompted the Government to come to this decision. We do not want these honest old gentlemen's money to be wasted in this manner. We do not want these honest old gentlemen's money to be pounced upon by a number of people. There are people in parasitic occupations who will come round and pounce upon any prospective sum of money that may be immediately payable on behalf of any person. We do not want to put them in this position. Mr. Hameed Khan was perfectly right when he said that this kind of argument on our part showed that we presumed to think for the interests of these persons. He also said that it was adding insult to injury and that we ought not to do it. I grant that we may not perhaps have gone into all these arguments had not arguments counter to this been advanced, in order to meet which it has become necessary to bring all these things out.

" Sir, I did not want to go into all these things at all. I am prepared to argue on the merits of the case, the first principles. The manner in which arguments have been put forward might almost make anyone who superficially examines the question or hears or reads the arguments, to imagine that this Government have taken away a right, taken away something which belonged to these pensioners. Let it be clearly understood that the pensions are there. Nobody has touched the pensions. They get the pensions to the quarter anna as had been fixed according to the old scales. What we have done is only to refuse to convert the future payments into an immediate lump-sum payment. That is not taking away a right, because it never existed. I want it to be clearly understood by hon. Members that we have not taken away anything from these gentlemen who have earned their pensions. We propose to give the pensions which they have earned month after month as they are entitled to. We do not propose to give them a lump sum in advance. That is the only thing that we have done and it cannot be considered in any manner to be either confiscatory or expropriatory or as taking away the legal and equitable rights of anybody.

" What are the reasons, Sir? It is not economical at all. It has been proved to us satisfactorily by the departments which were consulted. Even on the bare facts without any further consultation, we have found that we do not save anything by this, for it is the same thing whether we give a lump sum and save afterwards the monthly sums during the lifetime of the pensioner or whether we do not pay any lump sum but continue to pay month after month the sums that are due. Calculated on the actuarial basis there is no difference between the two. There is a difference in principle and it is for this reason I have tried to point out before and I shall repeat it once again. If ordinary circumstances are taken into account, these gentlemen who had salaries

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were entitled to and had opportunities to put by something i a lump-sum payment to them at the time of their retirement an endowment from insurance companies. They have not do so or they are not satisfied with what they have done in th respect. They were entitled and they had opportunities to purcha an endowment by monthly or quarterly payments before and th could have secured a lump sum which they required at the time their retirement. The question now is whether these old gentlem of 55 should be examined by a doctor and we should value the lives and assure ourselves that the pensions they will earn ther after from the public exchequer can be converted safely an properly into a lump sum at the age of 55 or 56. No insuran company accepts such a risk ordinarily. A person who h attained the age of 55 is not considered, however good his heal may be, as a fit subject for medical examination for actuari risks being taken. Therefore it is wrong that the Governme should take this insurance risk, and more than that take it advance. Ordinary insurance companies pay the sum of mone at the end of the period. But we are asked to pay beforehan and take back the premia later on from the pensions. Then, Si it is not the money belonging to any firm or any speculator; it money belonging to a trustee. It is public money that is to b collected month after month with great difficulty and accordin to the vagaries of the monsoons from the tax-payers. Therefo I submit that this is not a case where they can say that anythin wrong has been done by the trustee of the public funds, when w say that we shall not take these risks, we shall be content to d justice, bare justice, because it is other people's money we ar dealing with. We shall give pensions as they accrue, but we sha not take risks beforehand with regard to the lives of these peop and pay more money than probably they would earn by way o pensions.

" Then it has been said that the people on a smaller salar the non-gazetted officers, are in a worse position. I say it ma be so. I admit. But at the same time all that I have said till no will apply with greater force to the smaller salaried officers. If man gets Rs. 20,000, it is possible he may escape the dangers an he may have enough money for himself to carry on. But if a ma gets Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 10,000 he will very probably land himself i a position later on in which a gentleman of the India Office foun himself. He was a pensioner who found that all his endowmen money was gone and he was helpless. He sat *dharna* at the Indi Office and he continued to be a nuisance for a long time. Many o the people who saw him said to themselves, ' Here is a man who ha served his Government well and he is now a beggar and nobod is there to help him.' Many a pensioner would be reduced to tha condition, we fear, if we gave them lump sums of money and i they live up to a ripe old age without something which they ca

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call their own. They would then have to depend upon their previous dependants. It is not a good thing to do like that. I may be told that I am arguing for other people. It is true, but all Governments have to argue for other people. The whole of our policy is an argument for the interests of other people. We have to think in terms of the interests of the people concerned. We have to think in terms of the interests of these public servants. We want to retain them in a dignified position up to the end of their lifetime. We have promised to do so and we propose to fulfil that promise. We cannot run any risk in that process by giving away lump sums of money to their relatives and leave them to the tender mercies of their younger relatives. It is possible in these days of ambitions and failures of ambitions that these gentlemen pensioners might send away their children to England and America for studies hoping that by going through some education there at enormous cost they would get some employment here, but when they come back they may find that there is no employment available and that all the money is gone. Then again, marriage expenses were mentioned. Sir, we want to place as little temptation as possible in the way of these old gentlemen and that is the plain reason which has led us to the abandonment of this policy of giving lump sums in lieu of pensions.

" On the merits, therefore, Sir, there is not much in favour of this. We are fully convinced; but if people wish to convince us still, we cannot say 'no.' Hon. Members were perfectly justified in repeating their arguments; and possibly I am flattering myself that I have shown on various occasions a capacity for being persuaded and that is why these arguments are repeated over and over again. I take it as a compliment; but I am sorry, Sir, to say that at the present moment, we are unable to see any point in the arguments put forward. We have to stick to the policy; but again I repeat that not a pie of what the pensioners have earned has been taken away by this. It is only a lump sum that we refuse to give in anticipation of the pensions that will later on become payable." 4-4 p.m

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed the mover of the cut motion not being present, the cut motion was deemed to have been withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—INTEREST-FREE ADVANCES.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" Sir, I move—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,08,500 under Demand XXXVI—Interest-free Advances.' "

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made

DEMAND XXXVII—LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,19,49,700 under Demand XXXVII—Loans and Advances bearing Interest.*' "

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—FAMINE.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Sir, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXVII—Famine.*'

" Sir, you have directed that this Demand should be taken up last, so that the question of famine might be examined as fully as possible. I would request you, Sir, to allow me to say anything that I have to say, by way of reply, after hearing the hon. Members. Sir, famine work has been a continuous work in the first year as well as in the second year; and I have stated the policy of the Government last time at length. Twelve months are over now, and with your permission, Sir, I shall offer a few remarks in my reply."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 100 for Famine be reduced by Re. 1.*'

" Sir, the chief intention of my moving this cut motion is to ask this Government to put before this House all the information that the Famine Committee had gathered during the last one year. Sir, last year at the time of the Budget session, various members from the Opposition narrated to the Government the difficulties of the people of the Ceded districts which are constantly visited by famines, and the Government at that time promised to go into the matter carefully, and also appointed a Committee. We want to know what this Committee has done during the last one year. I also want to know what measures they have taken to increase the amenities of the people in the Ceded districts in times of famine. It is a matter for gratification, Sir, to know that famine is not prevalent in the Ceded districts this year. But certain parts of the Kurnool district are affected by famine conditions, especially ten or fifteen villages in the Sirvel taluk, because of the failure of the north-east monsoon. The people of those villages have represented their grievances to the local revenue officials and the members of the Legislature belonging to that division have also represented the grievances of these people

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to the Collector and they have also sent an appeal to the Government. Sir, the Government, before considering the whole matter, postponed the payment of land revenue from February to March; and everybody from these villages thought that the Government were going to give some solid help to them. But now we understand that all the ryots and agriculturists of these villagers were coerced and compelled to pay the whole of the land revenue. Sir, I therefore request the Hon. the Revenue Minister to go through the records once more and see whether he can do anything for these poor people.

"In my speech during the last Budget discussion, I requested the Government to take up the repair of minor irrigation works in these taluks. I also brought to the notice of the House the fact that some of the minor irrigation tanks of many of the villages in the Sirvel taluk needed repair very badly and that many of the landless labourers in the villages were hard hit owing to the failure of the monsoon. I think, Sir, that a certain amount of money should be sanctioned for the repair of these minor irrigation tanks this year. The repair of the famine road which was constructed some thirty or forty years ago and was never repaired afterwards, should also be taken up—I mean the 15 miles road running from Chagalamari to Rudhravaram. This is the only road which affords some transport facility in those villages lying at the foot of the Nallamalai hills. I therefore request that this road at least should be taken up for repairs during the hot months, when the landless labourers cannot get any wages to live upon because of the failure of crops in that area in Sirvel taluk."

*SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO :—"సభాపతీ, శ్రీ రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారు తెచ్చిన famine grant విషయమై సభ్యులెల్లరు ఏ ఆక్షేపణలేకుండా ఆమోదించెదరని నమ్మితిని. కాని రాయలసీమనుండి క్రిస్టియన్ సంఘము తరఫున వచ్చిన మిత్రుడు శామ్యూల్‌గారీ విషయమై మాట్లాడినతరువాత ఈ అవకాశమును తీసుకొని మాట్లాడ తలచినాను. నిరంతరము కరవులకు నెలవైన బళ్లారి, అనంతపురం జిల్లా ప్రజలు, పోయిన కరవువల్ల బాధపడినపుడు ప్రజల సంరక్షణకు మంత్రిగారు చూపించిన యాంతురత, తినుటకు తిండిలేక, కట్టుబట్టలేక అల్లాడిన రైతులనుభవించిన దుర్భరకష్టములను చూచి మంత్రిగారు పడిన ఆ వేదన వర్ణింపనలవిగాదు. నేడు నా ప్రదేశములు కళకళలాడుచున్నది. కడుపునిండా కూడుతిని కాలము గడుపుచున్న మా ప్రజలందరి తరఫునను నేను మంత్రిగారి నభినందించుచున్నాను. ఆర్థిక మంత్రిగారు తమ ఆదాయ వ్యయపట్టికలో ఇచ్చిన ప్రథమోపన్యాసములో మా ప్రాంతములలో క్షామనివారణకు 25 లక్షలు, రెవిన్యూ రెమిషను 15 లక్షలు, రెవిన్యూ సస్పెన్షన్ 4 లక్షలు మొత్తం 44 లక్షలు ఖర్చైనవని చెప్పుచు 'All these concessions were of course necessary and did much to mitigate the distress resulting from the famine, but they all mean drafts on the tax-payers elsewhere' అని సూచించినారు. అనగా ఇంతఖర్చు కరవువల్ల కలిగిన బాధానివా

[Sri Kallur Subba Rao] [30th March 1939

రణ కవసరమైనను అదంతయు ఇతర ప్రాంతములనుండి పన్ను చెల్లించువారిపై గొప్ప బరువని చెప్పినారు. ఫలవంతమగు ప్రదేశములనుండి పన్నులు వసూలుచేసి బీద ప్రదేశములలోని ప్రజలను సంరక్షించుట ప్రభుత్వ ధర్మము. ఈ సూత్రము ననుసరించియే ఈ ప్రభుత్వమువారుగూడా తమ ధర్మమును నిర్వర్తించినందులకు వారి నభినందించుచు మా బీదప్రాంతముల ప్రజలను యీ ఋణభారమునుండి తప్పించు మార్గమేదైనా ఆలోచించువరకు ఈ ఖర్చు తప్పదని ఆర్థిక మంత్రిగారికి విన్నవించుకొనుచున్నాను. గౌ॥ ప్రకాశం పంతులుగారు గడచిన సంవత్సరము ఈ డిమాండు చర్చమీద జవాబు చెప్పుచు ఈ బీద ప్రాంతములను సంపన్నవంతముగా మార్చుటకు వీలున్నదని చెప్పిరి. ఆ తరువాత ఒక కమిటీని నియమించినారు. ఆ కమిటీవారు బాగుగా కృషిచేసి ఒక రిపోర్టును పంపించినారు. ఇంతవరకు గవర్నమెంటువారు ఆ రిపోర్టును ప్రచురించలేదు. ఆ కమిటీవారి సూచనల ననుసరించి ఏమిచేయదలచినది తెలియపరచలేదు. మంత్రివర్గమువారు నిరంతర క్షామము ననుభవించు మా ప్రాంత ప్రజల దుస్థితి తొలగించుటకు తగిన పరిశ్రమ లభివృద్ధిచేసి, నీటిపారుదల సౌకర్యములనుగూడా బాగుచేయవలెను. పరిశ్రమలను ప్రోత్సహించుటయే గాక ఒక గొప్ప ఇండస్ట్రియల్ బ్యాంకు నేర్పరచుటకు గవర్నమెంటువారు పూనుకొనవలెను. వలయు మూలధనము గవర్నమెంటువారు 3% వడ్డి గ్యారెంటీ చేసినచో వసూలగును.

“ నీటిపారుదలకై తగు శ్రద్ధవహించుచు తుంగభద్ర స్కీమును సాగింతుమని ఈ సభాభవనమునుండి మంత్రిగారు చెప్పినారు. కాని ఒక్క తుంగభద్ర నీటివల్లనే మా ప్రాంతముల కన్నిటికి క్షామనివారణ కాదు. ఇంకను చిన్న చిన్న స్కీములను గూడా తీసుకొని పనిచేయవలెను. క్షామనివారణ కమిటీవారు పెన్నారు, కుముద్వతి ప్రాజెక్టు వెంటనే ప్రారంభించవలెనని సూచించిరి. ఈ సంవత్సరము ఈ ప్రాజెక్టుపని యెప్పుడు ప్రారంభించునదియు మంత్రిగారు శెలవిచ్చినచో ప్రజల కీవర్తమానము ఉత్సాహ మొనగూర్చును. మా మండలములను నిరంతర క్షామమునుండి తప్పించవలెనంటే ఒక ఆర్థిక సంఘము స్థాపించుట అవసరము. దానిని వెంటనే స్థాపించవలసి యున్నది. క్షామనివారణ కమిటీవారుగూడా దీనిని సూచించినట్లు తెలియుచున్నది. ఆ కమిటీవారు పంపిన రిపోర్టును మరలవచ్చే బడ్జటుదాకా అపుదలచేయకుండా ఆ కమిటీవారి రిపోర్టుపైన గవర్నమెంటువారి సలహా నిచ్చుచు ఒక ఎకనామిక్ బోర్డు స్థాపించి మా బీదప్రాంతములు భాగ్యవంతములుగా చేయుటకు సౌకర్యములు కల్పించవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. దత్తమండల ప్రాంతములో (Ceded areas) ను ఈ గవర్నమెంటువారు నైజాము ప్రభుత్వమునుండి తీసుకొన్నప్పుడు చేసుకొన్న అగ్రిమెంటులో వాటిని సంరక్షించవలసిన భారము ఇండియా గవర్నమెంటుపై నున్నదని వ్రాసుకొనిరి. కావున మా బీదప్రాంతములను సంరక్షించుటకు ఇండియా గవర్నమెంటువారికి వ్రాసి వారికి మా ప్రాంతములను సుభిక్షముగా చేయుటకు తగిన సూచనలు వారికిచేసి క్షామనివారణ కమిటీవారి రిపోర్టులోని సలహా ప్రకారము ఎకనామిక్ బోర్డు స్థాపించి పనిచేయవలసినదని కోరుచు ఇంతతో విరమించుచున్నాను.”

*SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ అధ్యక్షా, నేను గతసంవత్సరము మా జిల్లాలో కరవులున్నదని మనవిచేసియుంటిని. అందులకై ప్రభుత్వమువారు పలువిధముల శ్రమపడి మా ప్రదేశములలో క్షామనివారణ కనేకవిధముల తోడ్పడినందులకు నేను వారికి కృత

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క్షత లర్పించుచున్నాను. పోయిన సంవత్సరము వచ్చిన కరువు వట్టికరువు. వట్టి కరువు అనగా వర్షములేక, నీళ్లులేక తినుటకు తిండిలేకుండా, పంటలు పండకుండా బాధ పడ్డాము. ఈ సంవత్సరమువచ్చినది పచ్చికరువు. మాకు మామూలుగా ప్రతి సంవత్సరము 25 అంగుళముల వర్షముండును. కాని ఈ సంవత్సరము 50, 60 అంగుళ ముల వర్షమువచ్చి పంటలన్నియు నీటిపాలైనవి. ప్రతి సంవత్సరము మా ప్రాంతముల కేదో యొక కరువు వచ్చుచున్నది. ఈ కరువు నివారణకై తగుశ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలెనని శ్రీ కల్లూరు సుబ్బారావుగారు విశదీకరించినారు. నేనింకను కొన్ని విషయములలో సలహా నీయదలచినాను.

" గౌ. మంత్రిగారు తుంగభద్ర ప్రోజెక్టును త్వరలో ప్రారంభింతుమని చెప్పినారు. దీనిని వెంటనే ప్రారంభించవలెను. దానివల్ల మా ప్రాంతములలో పదిలక్షల యకరము లకు మాత్రమే లాభముండును. అయితే, సర్ ఆర్థర్ కాటన్ పూర్వము రెండు సంవ త్సరములు కష్టపడి Ceded districts ను అన్నిటిని ఒక డెల్టాగా మార్చుటకు ఒక స్కీమును కనిపెట్టి దానిని ఇండియా ప్రభుత్వమునకు పంపెను. దానిని వారు ఏమి చేసినది తెలియదు. దానిని బ్రిటిష్ పార్లమెంటువారు కాల్చివేసినారని తెలిసి ఇండియన్ ఇరిగేషన్ కమిటీవారి యెదుట సాక్ష్యమిచ్చునప్పుడు సర్ ఆర్థర్ కాటన్ చాల మనస్తాపపడినాడనికూడా తెలియును. ఇదంతయు మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వమువారికి తెలిసి దానికొరకే ప్రభుత్వము ప్రయత్నము చేయుననికూడా తెలియును. కనుక వారి ఎస్టిమేటుప్రకారం ఆ ఒరిజినల్ స్కీము 20 కోట్ల రూపాయలు ఖర్చగునని తెలిసియు ఇప్పుడు ప్రారంభించదలచుకొన్న దానికి 13 కోట్ల రూపాయలు కావున, ఒరిజినల్ స్కీమునే ప్రారంభించి 10 లక్షల యకరములకంటె ఎక్కువ భూమిని తరిగా మార్చి అన్ని జిల్లాలకు లాభమగునట్లు చూడవలెను. ఒరిజినల్ స్కీముకు ఇపుడు ప్రారం భింపదలచిన స్కీముకు తేడా 7 కోట్ల రూపాయిలు మాత్రమె. ఈ ప్రోజెక్టును నైజాము ప్రభుత్వము, మైసూరు ప్రభుత్వము, మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వముకలిసి 7 కోట్లు ఎక్కువగా ఖర్చుపెట్టి నిర్వర్తించిన నష్టమేమి? ఈ సంవత్సరం వచ్చిన కరువువల్ల మార్కాపురం తాలూకాలో కరువువచ్చి త్రాగుటకు నీళ్లులేక, తినుటకు తిండిలేక బాధపడుచున్నారు. కావున ఆ ప్రాంతముల ప్రజలకు దయచేసి రెమిషను ఇప్పించ వలెను. మార్కాపురం తాలూకా చాలాపెద్ద ఏరియాగా యున్నదికాని అచటినుండి వచ్చు పన్ను రూ. 2,48,000. అచటి ప్రజలు యకరానికి 2 అణాలు, 4 అణాల పన్ను చెల్లించుచున్నారు. దీనినిబట్టి ఆ ప్రాంతము ఎంతసారవంతమైనదో గవర్న మెంటువారు ఆలోచించవచ్చును. వారి కేమియు పంటలు పండుటలేదని గ్రహించి వారికి తగుసహాయము చేయవలెను. ఈ సంవత్సరము మన రాష్ట్రముయొక్క ఉత్తర ప్రాంతములలోను, దక్షిణ ప్రాంతములలోను కూడా కరువువచ్చినది. గవర్న మెంటువారు వారికికూడా సహాయము చేయవలసియుండును కావున నేను వారి నెక్కు వగా కోరుటలేదు. గవర్నమెంటువారు ఎంతవరకు సహాయముచేయుట కవకాశ ముండునో అంతవరకు చేయవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను."

* SRI DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, in supporting the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Dr. Samuel, I would like to say a few words in connexion with the prevention of famine. All the measures that have been taken until now are only curative measures. It is only after famines

sets in that the Government step in and try to relieve the distress as much as possible. But, Sir, happily for this Province, we have at present got an excellent remedial measure in the shape of hydro-electric installations. As I have already submitted while speaking on the Irrigation Demand, if hydro-electric installations are popularized and taken in hand more vigorously than it has been the case in the past, I dare say a great deal can be done to put an end to this famine which is visiting our Province almost every year.

" Sir, under the Mettur Scheme, we find that the whole area commanded by the scheme is a dry area depending upon tanks and wells for their supply of water. In this area, unfortunately, rain plays a very important part in the matter of cultivation. It is therefore necessary that Government should pay more attention to the development of hydro-electric installations. If the rate for the supply of electrical energy for agricultural purposes is charged at half-an-anna per unit as is done in the neighbouring State of Mysore, I am sure several ryots will come forward to make the use of electricity for their cultivation purposes.

" Here, Sir, I would suggest that it would be better if instead of allowing contractors or other licensees to control and distribute power, Government adopt the system of forming co-operative committees which could take over the duty of distributing and controlling electrical energy for agricultural purposes. Sir, co-operative societies can be formed with a group of villages with a centre so that villages as a whole will be responsible for the payment of the rates due for the supply of electricity and this agency will also serve very well for the distribution and collection of loans that are now granted to the agriculturists for the purchase of materials, etc. Besides undertaking the duties already mentioned by me, such co-operative societies will be in a better position to secure machinery and other things necessary for the ryots at a much cheaper cost to the considerable advantage and benefit of the ryot population in the areas affected.

" Sir, there is another direction in which economy can be exercised and that is in the matter of distributing power for the pumping of water during the non-working hours of the mills. For instance, between 2 and 5 a.m. no supply is given to mills or factories. I suggest that during those hours, if the rates at which energy is supplied are still further lowered, it would be a great advantage to the ryots and would induce them to take to electricity in large numbers. If the Government would pay some attention to this aspect of the matter and reduce the rate during the off-time when the electrical load is not so heavy elsewhere, it might probably be worked to the advantage of the ryot population. Of course, Sir, the whole thing depends on the satisfactory working of the hydro-electric installations. Luckily for us,

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Sir, in this Province there is a net-work of electric installations and in several of the districts we have either hydro-electric installations or thermal installations and I am sure these could be used gradually to the greatest advantage of the ryots. I am sure, Sir, this would be a good means of combating famine conditions in our Province, which have become a regular annual feature. With these few words, Sir, I support the cut motion."

* SRI B. PERUMALLA NAYUDU :—" అధ్యక్షమహాశయా, ఇదివరలో క్షామమును గురించి చర్చించుట దత్తమండలముల వారి మామూలు హక్కైయుండినది. ఈ సంవత్సరపు కాలమాన వైపరీత్యముచే ఆ హక్కు వారికే కొంత తొలగి యితర ప్రదేశములవారికి సంక్రమించినది. ఈ సంవత్సరము మా ప్రాంతములలో చాలా ప్రదేశములకు కరువువచ్చినది : ఎందుచేతననగా, ఈ సంవత్సరము వర్షములు సకాలములో కురియక పంటలు పండలేదు. కొన్ని గ్రామములలో విత్తనములైనను వేయలేదు. పంటపండని కారణముచేత పశువులకు మేతలేకుండా పోయినది. మనుష్యులకు తినుటకు ధాన్యము పండకపోయినప్పటికి పశువులకు మేతలేకపోవుటచే మహా కష్టము కలిగినది. ఆ కష్టము రైతుకేగాని ఇతరులకు తెలియదు. గవర్నమెంటువారెంత సహాయముచేసినను ఆ కష్టములు మాత్రము నివారణ కావు. దానికి తగిన చర్య గవర్నమెంటువారు తీసుకొనవలెనని ప్రార్థించుచున్నాను. మా జిల్లాలో రైతువారీ గ్రామములు చాలా తక్కువ. జమీందారీ గ్రామములు విస్తారముగా నున్నవి. ఆ గ్రామములలో ఎంత క్షామము వచ్చినప్పటికి, జమీందార్లు గమనించుటలేదు. వారు శిస్తు రాబట్టుకొనుట మానరు. ఈ సంవత్సరము కూడా ఆదేప్రకారంగా రైతులు అన్నమునకు లేక కష్టపడుచున్నప్పటికి వారివద్ద పన్నులు కఠినముగా వసూలుచేసినారు.

" ఇప్పటి పరిస్థితులనుబట్టి అనగా ఈ చట్టసభలో ప్రవేశపెట్టు జమీందారీ బిల్లు ప్యాసైనచో రైతులవద్దనుండి ఇదివరకంత వసూలుచేసుకొనుటకు వీలులేదని వెంకటగిరి జమీందారుగారు ఈ సంవత్సరము రైతులను మరింత పీడించి శిస్తులు వసూలుచేసినారు. వెంకటగిరి తాలూకాలోను, పొదిలె, దర్శి తాలూకాలోను ఇదేవిధముగా జరిగినది. అట్టి స్థితిలో గవర్నమెంటువారేమియు సహాయము చేయజాలకున్నారు. ఇక ముందు ఇటువంటి క్షామపరిస్థితులు వచ్చినపుడేమి చేయవలయునో ఈ సభవారు శ్రద్ధతో గమనించవలెను.

" మా జిల్లాలో ఏ కొద్ది డెల్టా ప్రదేశమో తప్ప మిగిలినదంతయు మెట్ట ప్రదేశము 5-1 p.m.
లోనే చేరును. ఇట్లు చెప్పుటలో డెల్టా ప్రదేశములన్నిటిలో నీటి సప్లయి బాగుగా యుండి పంటలు చక్కగా పండుననీ కాదు. ఇదివరలో తుంగభద్ర వగైరా ప్రాజెక్టు చెప్పుడు ఆలోచనలోకి తీసుకొన్నా ఈ మెట్ట ప్రదేశములను మినహాయించక వాటి పారుదలలో చేర్చినారు. ఇటీవల దత్తమండలముల ఇర్రిగేషన్ కమిటీవారు ఆ ప్రదేశములను తొలగించినారు. తుంగభద్ర ప్రాజెక్టు క్రింద ఈ ప్రాంతములను తీసుకొన్నచో చాలా ఖర్చగునని దాని నవటనుండి మినహాయించినట్లుగానున్నది. దీనివల్ల ముఖ్యముగా కనిగిరి, ఉదయగిరి తాలూకాలకు చాలా నష్టము కలుగుచున్నది. ఇట్లు కరువుకాటకు సంభవించు ఈ క్షామ నివారణకై సంగమేశ్వరమువద్ద కృష్ణా, తుంగభద్ర నదులు కలియుచోటు ఒక ప్రాజెక్టును నిర్మించవలెను. అది ఎక్కువ ఖర్చైనప్పటికి దత్తమండలములలో ఎక్కువ ప్రదేశములకును, చెంగల్పట్టు, చిత్తూరు జిల్లాలలో కొంత

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భాగమునకు లాభించును. దాని నిమిత్తము పట్టుదలవేసి మన గవర్నమెంటువారు హైదరాబాదు గవర్నమెంటువారితో సంప్రతించి తుంగభద్ర ప్రాజెక్టును సాధ్యమైనంతశీఘ్రముగా ఆ ప్రాజెక్టును పూర్తిచేసినచో ప్రజల కష్టములు చాలవరకు తగ్గును. ఇంతేకాకుండా కృష్ణా రిజర్వాయర్ ప్రాజెక్టునుగూర్చి తగు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలసినదని శ్రీ బుచ్చప్ప నాయుడుగారు ఇదివరకే మాట్లాడినారు. ఈ ప్రాజెక్టువల్ల గుంటూరు జిల్లాలోని మెట్టప్రదేశములు, నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలో కొంతభాగము బాగుపడును. కృష్ణా జిల్లాలోని భూములు ఇప్పటికే నీటిలో మునిగి తేలుచున్నవి. అట్టి ప్రదేశములను, రెండవ కారు పండు భూములను ఈ ప్రాజెక్టునుంచి మినహాయించి పై మెట్ట ప్రదేశములను దానిలో చేర్చుకున్నచో మెట్ట ప్రాంతములు బాగుపడుటయేగాక పల్లపు ప్రాంతములు నీటిలో మునుగకుండా యుండును. అదియునుగాక ఈ ఇరిగేషన్ డిపార్టుమెంటులో ఒక విధమున సక్రమమైన పని జరుగుటలేదని మనవిచేయక తప్పదు. ఎందుచేతననగా ఇరిగేషన్ మీదనే ఆధారపడియున్నట్టిన్ని, ఫలవంతమైన మెట్ట సాగుచేయ వీలులేని మెట్ట ప్రదేశములకు ప్రాజెక్టులు అత్యావసరమైనప్పుడు వానిని గమనించకుండా పంటలు పుష్కలముగా పండు తావులకే సహాయము చేయుట జరుగుచున్నది. ఈ విషయమును ప్రస్తుత గవర్నమెంటువారు వెంటనే గమనించవలెను.

“ మా ప్రాంతములలో చిన్న చిన్న ప్రాజెక్టులనేకము ఉన్నవి. వాటిలో ముఖ్యమైనది (1) రాళ్లపాడు ప్రాజెక్టు, (2) పెండకాపురం ప్రాజెక్టు, (3) మాచవరం చెరువు రెడ్డికాల్వ, (4) పాకల చెరువు, పాలేటి కాల్వయు వీటిని తలపెట్టి పనిచేయవలెను. వీటి నన్నిటిని ఒక్కసారిగా పనిచేయించక పోయినప్పటికిని, ఒకదాని తరువాత ఒకటినైనా చేయవలెను. వీటినన్నిటిని ఒక ఇరిగేషన్ ప్లానింగ్ క్రిందచేర్చి ఆ ప్లానింగ్ ప్రకారము పనిచేసి ఈ మెట్ట ప్రదేశములను పలుమారు క్షామములకు పాలుగాకుండ కాపాడవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. జపాను, రష్యా, జర్మనీ, ఇటలీ మొదలగు దేశములు మనకంటె ముందంజ వేయుటకు కారణమేమి? ప్రతి పనికి ఒక ప్లానింగ్ నేర్పఱచి దానిప్రకారం పనిచేయుదురు. కావున మన దేశములోకూడా ప్లానింగ్ నేర్పరచి దాని సూచనల ప్రకారం పనిచేయవలెను. ఇండస్ట్రియల్ ప్లానింగువలె అగ్రికల్చరల్ ప్లానింగ్ మొదలగు ప్లానింగుల నేర్పాటుచేసి దీనిని అగ్రికల్చరల్ ప్లానింగు క్రిందకు తీసుకొని ఒక పద్ధతి ప్రకారం పనిచేసినచో బాగుండును. ఈ మెట్ట ప్రదేశములకు ముందు స్థానము ఇచ్చి వాటిని అమలుపరచవలెను. రాష్ట్రము మొత్తములో ఒక భాగము బాగుండి ఇంకొక భాగము ఎక్కువ కష్టములు పొందుచున్నప్పుడు చూచుచు యూరకుండుట భావ్యముకాదు. దానివలన దేశములో అతృప్తి, మనస్పర్థలు యేర్పడుచున్నవి.

“ మా మెట్ట ప్రదేశములనుండి రైతులు కూలీలు ఇతర దేశములకు జీవనముకై వలసపోవుచున్నారు. ముఖ్యముగా మా తాలూకాలలోని ప్రజలు బర్మాకు, సిలోనుకు, దక్షిణాఫ్రికాకు, ఆఫ్రికాలోని ఇతర ప్రదేశములకు పోవుచున్నారు. ఈ పట్నములోనున్న రిక్షా కూలీలు కల్లు గీతగాండ్రు పాకీవాండ్రు మా ప్రాంతమువారే. అట్టి వారివల్ల ఇట్టి పట్నములు ఎక్కువగా పెరుగుట మంచిదికాదు. ఈ పట్నములలో ఆరోగ్య పరికరములు బాగుగా యున్నవి కావున ఎంత పెరిగినను నష్టములేదనుట మంచిదికాదు. మా ప్రాంతములలో వ్యవసాయము క్షీణించును. వ్యవసాయము లేనిచో మే మచట నిలువజాలము. దేశమునకు క్షేమముకాదు.

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" విద్యుచ్ఛక్తివల్ల భూమిలోని నీటిని సులభముగా బయటికి తీసి భూమి సాగుబడి చేయించుటకు గవర్నమెంటు కభిలాషయున్నది. కాని మా దేశములో ఈ విద్యుచ్ఛక్తివల్ల ఎక్కువ లాభముండునో లేదో నాకు సందేహముగా నున్నది. ఒక్కొక్కచోట 40, 50 అడుగులవరకు నీరు పడక కొన్నిచోట్ల అసలు నీరు పడుటలేదు. ఈ విషయములో ఇదివరకు శ్రీరామకృష్ణా రాజుగారు మనవిచేసియున్నారు. దీనివల్ల ఇరిగేషన్ ఎక్కువగా వ్యాప్తియగునని చెప్పుటకు వీలులేదు.

" మన దేశములో జనసంఖ్య చాలా వృద్ధియగుచున్నది. ఇప్పటికి దాదాపు 40 కోట్ల జనులున్నారు. మన రాష్ట్రములోకూడా దానికి తగినట్లుగా వృద్ధిఅయియున్నది. ఇంకను కాగలదు. అందరకు సరిపోవునట్లుగా మనము తిను పదార్థములనుత్పత్తిచేయకో యితర ప్రదేశములనుండి తెప్పించుకొనవలసిన దుస్థితి యేర్పడును. డెల్టాలలో ఎంత వరకుపండించుటకు వీలున్నదో అంతవరకు యిప్పటికే పండించుచున్నారు. ఇక మెట్ట ప్రదేశములమీద ఆధారపడక వీలులేదు. గనుక మెట్టప్రదేశములనుగూడ బాగుచేసి మన దేశపు యార్థికాభివృద్ధినికలుగజేయ వలెనని ప్రభుత్వము వారిని కోరుచు ఇంతటితో విరమించుచున్నాను."

*K. ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, before I proceed, I must express my satisfaction at the manner in which the Government have tried to tackle the famine problem in the Ceded districts. It was only last year that the Ceded districts were in the grip of a terrible famine. It must be said to the credit of the Hon. the Revenue Minister that he was kind enough to visit these places, not once or twice, but more than that, in order to study conditions at close quarters. As a result of his frequent visits to those places, he was able to mitigate distress in those districts. Adequate steps were taken by the Government to minimise the unfortunate calamity to which the people there were subject. The Government also realized the urgent necessity of appointing a Committee for the purpose of revising the Famine Code and to suggest measures for effecting improvements in the methods adopted to tackle it. I suppose that the Committee has finished its labours and that the report will be shortly published. It is not for me to anticipate the recommendations of the Committee but I am sure that the recommendations of the Committee will certainly be very helpful in revising the Code in the best possible manner. It was a pleasant news to hear from the Hon. Minister for Public Works that the Government had not forgotten their duty of expediting the Tungabhadra Project. He was kind enough to tell us that he would be coming to the House during the autumn session for a supplementary grant to start this Project. I think these steps will go a great way to remove distress from our parts. That is why, Sir, I said at the outset that we are thankful to the Government for the measures that they have been adopting in order to remove distress from our parts.

" During the current year famine has been reported from Sirvel and Markapur taluks. So far as Sirvel is concerned, there was a failure of rains in the latter part of the season and in

Markapur, there was failure of rains after November; and the result is that there is failure of crops in both the taluks. In the former taluk as many as 13 villages have been affected and in the latter six villages have been affected. Representations have already been made to the district authorities and to the Hon. Minister regarding the distress that prevails in those areas; and I am hopeful that the district authorities as well as the Hon. the Revenue Minister will do all that they possibly can to remove the suffering in those two taluks. My suggestion is that the Government may grant land revenue remissions in those two taluks. The other proposal that I wish to submit for the kind consideration of the Government is that the Government should make a special grant to the district board for road works to be undertaken for famine relief purposes. In Sirvel, I would suggest, for instance, that the repairs to Chagalamari-Rudhravaram road may be taken up. In Markapur also some such work which can give employment to the poor people, may be taken up. Sir, I have nothing more to add; and I hope the Hon. Minister will favourably consider the several points raised by me."

*Sri N. G. RAMASWAMI NAYUDU :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, பஞ்சம் என்ற முறையில் இம்மாகாணம் முழுவதும் பஞ்சமாகத்தானிருக்கின்றது. இதற்கு அத்தாக்ஷியாக எந்த இடத்திலும் வீதிகளிலும் மரத்தடியிலும் சத்திரம் சாவடிகளிலும் பிச்சைக்காரர்கள படுத்து உறங்குவதை நாம் கண்கூடாகக் காண்கிறோம். இந்த விதமான கொடூர பஞ்ச நிலைமை இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் பல பாகங்களில் பல ஜில்லாக்களில், அந்த ஜில்லாக்களில் பல தாலூக்காக்களில் அநேகமாக பஞ்சம் தாண்டவமாடுகிறது. மக்கள் அநேகம் பேர்கள் தண்ணீர்கூட இல்லாமல் ஆற்றங்கரைப் பக்கங்களிலும் சோலைப்பக்கங்களிலும் போய், தங்களுடைய ஜீவனத்தை நடத்தலாமென்று அநேக ஆயிரக்கணக்கான குடியானவர்கள் ஆடு மாடுகளை சந்தைகளில் விற்றுவிட்டு அதன் பணத்தைக்கொண்டு போகலாமென்ற நோக்கத்துடன் தங்களிடத்திலிருக்கும் பண்டங்களை, சாமான்களை, பாத்திரங்களை விற்று, அதுவும் போதாமல், தங்களுடைய வீடுகளை அடகு வைத்துவிட்டு அவ்வளவு திக்கற்ற நிலைமையில் ஏழைகள் எவ்வளவோ பஞ்சத்தினால் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். இதைச் சர்ககார் உடனடியாகக் கவனித்துத் தக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டியது முக்கியமான கடமை.

" இந்தப் பஞ்சத்தினாலும், வறுமைக் கொடுமையினாலும், விபசாரம் இந்த தேசத்தில் மிதமிஞ்சிப் போயிருக்கிறது. அதைத் தடுக்கவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய கடமையாகும். விபசாரம் இருக்கப்படாது என்று சர்க்கார் சட்டமிருக்கிறது. அப்படியிருந்தும் பஞ்சமென்ற காரணத்தினால் இந்த விபசாரம் பலவந்தமாய் ஏற்படுகிறது. இது ஏற்படாமலிருக்க, வேண்டிய உதவி செய்து பெண்கள் மானத்தைக் காப்பாற்றவேண்டுமென்ற உணர்ச்சியிருந்தால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய பொறுப்பாகும். இதுமாத்திரமல்ல. காங்கயம், திருப்பூர், பொள்ளாச்சி, பல்லடம், உடுமலைப்பேட்டை முதலிய தாலூக்காக்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்கள் நிலைமையைப்பார்த்தால், கள்ளிப்பழம் கூட இல்லை. இதற்குமுன் கள்ளிப்பழத்தைத் தின்று தண்ணீர் குடித்தாவது பிழைக்கலாம் என்ற எண்ணமிருந்தது. இப்பொழுது ஏதோ ஒரு பூச்சியைக்கொண்டு கள்ளிகள் அழிந்துபோன காரணத்தினால் அந்த எண்ணமுங்கூட இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டபடியால் அங்கேயுள்ள ஜனங்கள் மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமான நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையிலிருக்கும்போது ஜில்லா போர்டு

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பிரசிடெண்டுக்கும் இஞ்சினீயருக்கும் 'கிணறுகளில் குடி தண்ணீரில்லை, தண்ணீர் வசதி ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்' என்று விண்ணப்பம் அனுப்பினால் இஞ்சினீயருக்கும் ஜில்லா போர்டு பிரசிடெண்டுக்கும் போய் வர இரண்டு மாதம் ஆய்விடுகிறது. அதற்குமேல் இஞ்சினீயர் வந்து கிணற்றைப் பார்க்க வருகிறார். இதற்குள்ளாக மழை பெய்து தண்ணீர் உண்டாகிவிட்டால், 'தண்ணீரில்லை என்று சொன்னீர்களே; இப்பொழுது கிணற்றில் தண்ணீர் இருக்கிறதே; உங்கள் ஊர் ஜனங்கள் பொய் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். முட்டாள்தனம் பண்ணிவிட்டார்கள்,' என்று எழுதி விடுகிறார். தண்ணீரில்லாது கஷ்டப்படுவது ஒருபக்கமிருக்க, இன்னொரு பக்கம் முட்டாள் பட்டமும் கட்டும் நிலைமைக்கு வந்துவிட்டது. இன்னும் ஜனங்களுடைய நிலைமை என்ன? ஏழைகள் ஆண்களும் பெண்களும் கட்டத் துணியில்லாமல் நிர்வாணமாயிருக்கக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆண்கள் ஒரு கோமணத்துடனும், பெண்கள் கிழிந்த கந்தலுடனும் நிர்வாணிகளாயிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தப் பரிதாபகரமான நிலைமையைப் போக்குவதற்கான ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய பொறுப்பு என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த நிலைமையினால் கொலை, களவு, திருட்டும் இன்னும் புரட்சிகரமான மனப்பான்மையும் உண்டாகும்படியான நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஜெயிலிலிருக்கும் கைதிகள் உணவாவது இந்தப் பாட்டாளி மக்களுக்கு பஞ்சத்தினால் கஷ்ட நிலைமையை அடைந்தவர்களுக்கு, கொடுக்கும்படி சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்தால் அமைதி நிலைமை ஏற்படும் என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். அவர்கள் பஞ்சத்தினாலும் வறுமையினாலும் வீட்டைவிட்டு வெளியே காற்றாலும் வெயிலாலும் உலர்ந்துகொண்டிருக்கும் மண்ணையும் காற்றையும் சாப்பிடும் நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இதுமாத்திரமல்ல. அவர்கள் கேட்பது என்ன? திருடிவிட்டு, கொலை செய்துவிட்டு ஜெயிலிலிருக்கும் சண்டாளனுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் உணவையாவது கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். அதைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று நாங்கள் கேட்பதுடன் அவர்களுக்கு வேலை செய்ய வசதி ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும். அதாவது கிணறு வெட்டல், ரோடு போடுதல் முதலிய பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும்.

"பஞ்சத்தினால் கஷ்டப்படும் அவர்களுடைய கைக்குழந்தைகளுக்குப் பிறந்தவுடன் எண்ணெய் வசதி கிடையாது. மற்றும் குழந்தைகளுக்கு உடை கிடையாது. ஏழைகள் பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பிரதேசங்களில் படும் கஷ்டம் இவ்வளவு அவ்வளவு என்று சொல்ல முடியாது. ஏழைகளுடைய ஆடு மாடுகளுக்கு, இந்தப் பஞ்சப் பிரதேசங்களுக்கு ரெயிலில் வாகன் வாகனாக வரும் புல் தட்டு முதலியவைகளில் ஏதாவது கிடைக்கிறதா? 'சுவாமி வரங்கொடுத்தாலும் பூசாரி வரங்கொடுக்கவில்லை' என்ற மாதிரி அங்கேயுள்ள முதலாளிகளுக்குத்தான் போகிறது. சின்னக் குடியானவனுக்குப் போகிறதில்லை. பச்சைப் புல் தட்டு விழுகிறது வாகன் வாகனாய் வந்து விழுகிறது; குடியானவனுக்குப் புல் தட்டுப் போகிறது என்பது கிடையாது. கண்டிப்பாக எஜமானர்களுக்கும், பட்டக்காரர்களுக்கும், பெரிய ஆஸாமிகளுக்கும் போகிறது. ஏழைகளைப் பெரியதனக்காரர்கள், பட்டக்காரர்கள், நசுக்குகிறார்கள். ஒரு குடியானவன் ஏழைக்கு நாலு ஏக்கரா நிலமிருந்தால், ஒரு ஏக்கராவுக்கு ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் மதிப்பிருந்தால், அதை அவன் கஷ்டப்படும் இந்த நிலைமையில் நூறு ரூபாய் மதிப்புப் போட்டு வாங்கிக்கொள்கிறார்கள். இன்னொரு சம்பவம் நடந்ததைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். திருப்பூரில் ஒரு ஏழைக் குடியானவன் பத்து ஆடுகள் கொண்டு வந்தான். வயிற்றுப் பசியினால் வருந்தும்போது கையில் பணமில்லை. ஒரு ஹோட்டலில் சாப்பிட்டான். பணம் கொடுக்க வழியில்லாமல் நாலணாப்புட்டுக்காக பத்து ஆடுகளையும் அந்த ஹோட்டலிலே கொடுத்துவிட்டுப் போய்விட்டான். திரும்பிவரவில்லை. இவ்வளவு கஷ்டமான நிலைமை பஞ்சத்தினால் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. உண்மையாக இந்தப் பாட்டாளி மக்களுக்கு இந்த ஏழைக் குடியானவர்களுக்கு, காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார், காங்கிரஸ் மந்திரி

[Sri N. G. Ramaswami Nayudu] [30th March 1939

மார்கள் பரிபூரணமான ஒத்தாசை செய்யவேண்டும். காங்கிரஸின்மேல் தான் அவர்கள் பரிபூரண பக்தி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு நம்மைக் கைவிட்டுவிடாது ; நிலங்களை நூறு ரூபாய் ஐம்பது ரூபாய்க்கு இப்பொழுது பஞ்சத்தின் கொடுமையினால் விற்றுவிட்டாலும், பின்னும் ஒத்தாசை செய்யுமென்று நினைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள், என்பதை கனம் முதன் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவிக்கிறேன். ஏழைப் பிரதேசங்களில் நம்முடைய மந்திரிகள் டாக்டர் ராஜன் அவர்களும், நமது தொழிலாளர் மந்திரி வி. வி. கிரி அவர்களும், யாகூப் ஹாஸன் அவர்களும் வந்து பார்த்துவிட்டு. கண்ணீரும் கம்பலையுமாக இருக்கும் ஏழைக் குடியானவர்கள் நிலைமையைப் பார்த்துவிட்டு வந்தார்கள். இது விஷயமாகக் காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் உடனே கவனித்து வேண்டிய சகாயஞ்செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று தாழ்ந்த வணக்கத்துடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—" Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to go into the details of the Famine administration, as I have done so on previous occasions, and more especially as the report of the Famine Committee where, a number of recommendations have been made, are still under the consideration of the Government. However, Sir, I propose to bring to the notice of the Government one or two aspects of Famine administration, and I would like to lay some stress on them to-day. The previous Governments have more or less devoted their attention as to how to relieve the distress of the people during famine times, but on the question as to how to avoid famine little consideration was given by them. This Government, Sir, I am glad to say, have begun to devote their attention not only to relieve distress where it actually occurs but also to see how famines can be mitigated, if not prevented. It is on that aspect, Sir, I propose to speak first. One of the terms of reference to the Famine Committee that was recently appointed is to devise measures for mitigating famine, if not preventing famine altogether, in the Ceded districts and other areas.

" I do not want to anticipate the recommendations that the Famine Committee have made; because they are considered to be confidential before publication and I do not know what attention Government have so far bestowed on those recommendations. I hope the Hon. Revenue Minister will give us some idea as to what they propose to do with regard to those recommendations. Various recommendations have been made, measures suggesting how to improve the economic condition of the famine-stricken areas. I do not think I will be letting out any secret to this House if I say that one of the recommendations made by the Committee in order to mitigate famine in the Ceded districts is the development of irrigation sources in that area to the extent that is possible. And it is also mentioned that whatever may be the effect of taking up big irrigation schemes like the Tungabhadra there is still a vast field for developing irrigation sources in the other areas which are not touched by the big irrigation schemes. It is absolutely necessary that small irrigation schemes also should be taken up because big irrigation schemes would not benefit all portions of

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the Ceded districts where famine occurs. My friend, Mr. Nagappa referred to the question how it is that Government have given up the supply of water to Cuddapah and certain portions of Kurnool district which were covered by the original Tungabhadra Project. My friend, Mr. Perumalla Nayudu referred to the question of the needs of the dry portions of the Nellore district and said that they are as essential to be met as the needs of the other portions of the Ceded districts. You know, Sir, all the five districts, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Anantapur and Nellore, were intended to be benefited by the original Tungabhadra scheme. As it is at present formulated, the Tungabhadra scheme may benefit only certain portions of some of these districts, two taluks in Bellary, two taluks in Kurnool, a small portion in Gooty taluk of Anantapur district—so much so a vast portion of the area that was originally intended to be benefited by the Tungabhadra scheme has now been given up by the Government. I do not believe that it is financial consideration that has come into play for adopting this; but it is want of sufficient water in the Tungabhadra river during ordinary years that has made Government give up a large area that was originally intended to be benefited by the scheme.

"Various factors have come into play; the rights of the Mysore 5-
Government and Hyderabad have had to be taken into account p.m
to divide the waters of the Tungabhadra, the result being that only a small portion of the area in British India is now benefited by the Tungabhadra scheme. I am glad, Sir, that this Government have, I understand, decided not to shelve the Tungabhadra project as it has been done for the past so many years. I believe, Sir, that the Government will be taking early and active steps to make the Tungabhadra project an accomplished fact before this Government lay down their office in this present term. The reason why the Nellore, Cuddapah and large portions of Kurnool and Anantapur districts were omitted is, as I told you Sir, due to the insufficiency of water in the Tungabhadra river. There are two ways in which this could be met to a large extent. One is to divert the waters of the Kistna for the benefit of Nellore, Cuddapah and Kurnool. Portions of Anantapur and some portions of Cuddapah which were intended to be benefited by the Tungabhadra project cannot be benefited by the waters of Kistna. The waters of Kistna could be utilized only for some portions of Kurnool, Cuddapah and Nellore districts and not for the benefit of some portions of Cuddapah, any portion of Anantapur and a large portion of Kurnool which were intended to be covered by the original project. So we have to devise measures which could benefit these areas which are now omitted from the scope of the present Tungabhadra project. With regard to Kistna waters I believe there is any amount of water available in the Kistna river. I understand, Sir, that to-day not even 10 per cent of the waters of the Kistna are utilized for the purpose of irrigation; 90 per cent

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of these waters is now going to waste. I believe that the Government will take steps to see that a large portion of the waters of Kistna which are now going to waste is utilized for the benefit of these areas.

"The Sangameswaram project is one of the biggest projects under consideration for utilizing Kistna waters. I am afraid the scheme of the Kistna Reservoir Project which is now and then mentioned to be considered by the Government may probably stand in the way of the Sangameswaram project being taken up. I request this Government that before any steps are taken to consider the Kistna Reservoir Project, attention should be paid to the Sangameswaram project. The Sangameswaram project, Sir, is useful not only to the Ceded districts, not only to Nellore, but also to Guntur and Kistna covered by the Kistna project, whereas the Kistna project cannot be useful to the Ceded districts and Nellore. So I hope the Government, before they consider taking up the Kistna project, will take up the question of the Sangameswaram project, if the Government really want to benefit the larger area in the Ceded districts, and Nellore whose needs, I believe, are as great as the Ceded districts. Some of the dry areas in Nellore are often suffering for want of rain. This is one of the projects which could really benefit a larger area than the area to be benefited by the Tungabhadra project. This is one way of meeting the situation I referred to.

"There is one other way in which to a vast extent the situation could be met. Even if we have the Sangameswaram project, it can only benefit certain areas of the Ceded districts and not other areas which have been omitted from the scope of the Tungabhadra project, namely, Anantapur district and portions of Cuddapah. Cuddapah has altogether been omitted from the scope of the present Tungabhadra project. Even if you take up the Sangameswaram project, it will not benefit portions of Cuddapah which were originally intended to be benefited under the Tungabhadra project. So some measure has to be adopted by which these areas which are now omitted from the scope of the Tungabhadra project ought to be benefited. As far as rain water falling in these areas is concerned, the Government should take up the question of tanks, big and small, for new construction, where water could be conserved for new irrigation. Wherever there are areas which cannot be benefited either by the present Tungabhadra project or by smaller projects, I want to suggest a new method by which the situation can be met to a large extent. It was some ten years ago that I suggested on the floor of the old Legislative Council this method and it was considered by the then Law Member in charge of Irrigation, namely, Sir Ramaswami Ayyar, as chimerical. I said nothing then. It was a suggestion which came to me by an observation of the sprinkling of water on the road for the purpose of minimizing dust. Just as water was sprinkled on the road, I

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thought a mechanical process could be devised by which instead of having the field irrigated as we have to-day, a sort of sprinkling of water could be done on these fields and thereby the situation could be met to a certain extent. One difficulty with regard to irrigation of black cotton soil has been during a drought. The black cotton soil is such that it cannot give good crop if too much water is given. If you give too much of water it spoils the soil also. On the other hand, if you give the black cotton soil just the amount of water that is necessary and nothing more it gives very good crop. That is really the difficulty to-day in the Cuddapah and Kurnool districts and probably under the future Tungabhadra project. It is the experience of every body that if you give too much of water to the black cotton soil you do not get good crop. This year, as a matter of fact, owing to too much rain during the early part of the year and no rain during the latter part, we have not had much crop. You must give just the amount of water necessary for the black cotton soil and nothing more for a good crop. So I suggest to this Government to investigate, to make a research, whether we cannot devise a mechanical process by means of which you can have water sprinkled on the black cotton soil, so that it will be like real rain-fall, and there won't be any waste of water as you have under the present system of irrigation, and the insufficiency of water in the Tungabhadra can be met if you adopt such a mechanical process. I was surprised that the then Law Member called may idea as chimerical. This Government may investigate it. Recently, to my greate joy, I received an advertisement from an engineering firm which gave me the news that in Western countries to-day this system of irrigation by sprinkling water on the land is coming into vogue. They call it overhead or rain-maker irrigation. This is a process by which water is led into pipes fixed with revolving sprinklers. Where water is forced into the pipes with sprinklers water falls from above like rain, on the land, the result being that we give that field only so much water as is necessary and nothing more. It is just as good as rain for all practical purposes. It is better too as the quantity of water given to the field can be easily regulated. The black cotton soil, as I suggested to you, is such as would give you a very good crop if you do not give too much water and give it only so much water as is necessary and nothing more. This sort of a mechanical process would really be suitable for the purpose. So, I hope, Sir, this Government would not call my idea fantastic, as I have pointed out that this system is being operated in some of the Western countries. I do not mean to say that this could be done all at once. But there are immense possibilities. The only question probably may be with regard to cost. But how much would it cost? I want the Government to investigate. This would probably solve the insufficiency of water for the Nellore, Cuddapah and Anantapur districts. Therefore, I hope the Government will investigate this matter.

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"There is another aspect which I want to touch and that is with regard to the administration of famine relief. Sir, I have already stated that I did not want to go into the various aspects of this matter. I have already spoken last year at length. I want to touch on one aspect which I want prominently to bring to the notice of the Government. From my experience of famine relief administration during the last and previous famine in Ceded districts, I find that we are not really getting the money's worth from the work that is done. I do not mean to suggest that the Government ought not to take a humane aspect of the administration of famine relief. But at the same time, I am one of those who believe that when we spend money for any purpose, we must get the money's worth to the extent possible. What is happening to-day in the administration of famine relief? If you spend a lakh of rupees during the famine times, the work that is really turned out is not worth more than 30,000 rupees—I put it at the highest. You do not get more than one-third of the value of the money that is spent on the administration of famine relief. It is no doubt due to various causes. I do not want to go into details. The Government should investigate the matter why it is so. I believe from my experience, I can safely say, that at present for a lakh of rupees that is being spent, you are getting back work worth only Rs. 30,000 if done at ordinary times. If there is a way by which you can get more work done, more beneficial work done, for the money that is being spent, it is necessary for the Government to say. Why is it, Sir, that to-day we are not really having as much work done as the money that is spent? It is due to various causes. What actually happens is this. You take up a road work. For a road work you take a long distance of 4, or 5 or 6 miles. The Famine Code lays down that ordinarily work should be provided within 5 miles. But ordinarily you do not expect the famine worker to travel more than 5 miles for getting work. I have seen cases where these famine workers have been made to go a distance of 6, 7 or 8 miles and then return home in order to get work. I have brought this to the notice of Government also. As the works are often too far away from the residences of the workers, they cannot spend as much time on the work as they could otherwise do if the work is nearer home. They spend much time to go to the work spots from their homes, which is 4, 5 or 6 miles and then back to their homes. They are wasting so much of energy over going and coming from the work spots. Again there is another difficulty. The Famine Code lays down another rule which is probably necessary under the present system of administration. They no doubt say that useful pieces of work like irrigation, can be taken up and in one place they lay down that preference should be given to irrigation works to other works. But at the same time they lay down another rule which nullifies the former rule. It is to this effect: that only such works as could be finished by the time the famine is over should be taken.

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Of course the authorities do not expect the famine to continue for more than one year; even if it actually continues for more than one year the authorities in the beginning provide such work as is expected to be completed within five or six months. There 6 I is also another rule to the effect, that village works which are nearer the homes of famine workers cannot be undertaken in the beginning because they have to be reserved for the end of a famine. When the rain is coming these workers have to be induced to go to the village works on which the conditions of employment are stricter. On account of these reasons it has become the practice of the famine authorities to take up only practically road works for a number of miles. I suggest that a method should be devised by which the wastage of the energy of the workers in going to the workspot and coming back should be stopped and more useful forms of work should be taken up as famine relief works. I suggest the taking up of irrigation projects, big and small. We can have many such irrigation works. I do not mean the Tungabhadra or the Sangameswaram projects alone. There are small projects which will cost one lakh, fifty thousand, twenty thousand and like that. One thing is, you may not have these useful irrigation projects in the area in which there is famine. Therefore, I would suggest to the Government the necessity of taking up irrigation projects, big and small, for famine relief works though they do not exist in the famine area. It means that they should induce the workers to go, by offering favourable conditions and creating conveniences, to the area where you take up these irrigation works.

"There are three types of people in the villages which are affected by famine. The first type is generally the well-to-do who under any circumstances will not resort to famine relief works, even though they feel the necessity for borrowing money to get through famine. They would prefer borrowing money rather than go and work in the famine works. The percentage of such people is not very much. It may be about 10 or 20 per cent at the most. There is another type, the small ryots who have not large means, who ordinarily resort to the famine relief works. And there is the third class of men, the actual labourers who may be about 40 to 50 per cent. With regard to the actual labourers there will not be any difficulty. Even to-day when there are some sheds put up for them at the workspots, some of the labourers instead of going to their homes after finishing the work, stay there and work. There is the other kind of workers, the small ryots who will even to-day in spite of the sheds that are provided for them generally walk a distance of five or six miles to their village, where their cattle are to be looked after or there is the temptation of home; and all these things result, as I have pointed out, in waste of human energy. At the same time if sufficient inducements are put before these people, even the second type of men, the small ryots who are now going to their

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districts of gravelly soil where ordinarily nothing is grown. In some years you sow horsegram there but the profit you get out of it is really very little. Those lands are assessed at 4 annas or 6 annas at the most. Ordinarily, when there is no rain you do not get anything. So I have been suggesting to this Government and the past Governments that some temptations ought to be given to the ryots owning these lands to plant trees in them either in the shape of remission of the assessment altogether or collecting the assessments when the trees grow and when the plantation yields some income to them. These suggestions have not been considered by the past Governments. I believe this Government will consider this aspect very seriously.

"I brought to the notice of the Government six years ago—and to-day I bring to the notice of this Government—that they should investigate into the possibilities of the use of charcoal for power purposes. So far, I believe no steps have been taken. Several years ago, when Mr. V. Ramakrishnan was the Director of Industries he made some attempt to run a charcoal engine attached to a lorry. I do not know what happened since then. Probably the Director who succeeded him did not take any interest in the matter. I pointed out to the Government that France and Germany which have no petrol mines were interested in this matter and they are investigating into the possibilities of the use of charcoal for power purposes and they have succeeded to some extent. And, I think, in order to help this industry, in order to help the economic position of this country, that investigation should be carried on by this Government into the use of charcoal. So far, nothing in this direction has been done by the previous Governments. I have learnt recently that some charcoal plant was utilized for running buses in Tinnevelly and in some other places. I saw one in Bezwada. To-day in Germany and France, number of lorries and even cars are being run by charcoal engines, and even ordinary wood is utilized there for purposes of running motors. It is to the advantage of this country where we have no petrol that this Government should investigate into the possibilities of this charcoal for power purposes and utilize it to the best advantage, and particularly for running buses and lorries. This Government will, I hope, even if there are some disadvantages in the beginning encourage the use of charcoal for power purposes as against petrol and other fuels for which a lot of our money has to be spent. Even if there are some slight disadvantages the Government should encourage and also induce the district boards and others to use charcoal for power purposes. To make a thorough investigation and research a few hundreds and even thousands spent in this direction will not be a waste and is worth while. In this connexion I appeal to our Prime Minister in charge of Finance who, I think, is generally very very cautious in financial matters—there

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be cultivated under the Tungabhadra project in every district if it comes into operation. But, I am sure, Sir, a large number of workers will be taken when the scheme is taken up and they will be saved from their difficulties. Otherwise, every year, in case the rains failed, they have to feel diffident about their maintenance. Particularly the Ceded districts are noted for murders. If the famines are not looked into and if immediate help is not given to those people, such things will occur, and by way of protection the Government will have to spend a lot of money for that. Therefore, Sir, my earnest request to the Government on behalf of my constituency is to take immediate steps for the inauguration of the Tungabhadra project and I hope they will take all necessary steps to inaugurate the scheme."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I request hon. Members to occupy the seats allotted to them hereafter. Because if they do not do so, I am not able to identify some of the Members. (A voice: 'Is it always?') Not always. All hon. Members are requested to occupy their seats and if they leave them, to return immediately to the seats allotted to them after they finish their few minutes conversation."

*Sri V. R. PERUMAL CHETTIYAR:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது நான் அமர்ந்திருக்கக்கூடிய இடமானது தங்களால் எனக்கு ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்ட இடம். அதில்தான் நான் அமர்ந்திருக்கிறேன். எனக்கு ஏற்பட்ட இடத்திலே இருந்துங்கூட தலைவர் அவர்கள் என்னுடைய பேரைக்கூப்பிடாமலிருந்துவிட்டதற்காக வருந்துகின்றேன்.

"தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது சர்க்கார் அவர்கள், குறிப்பாக ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள், நமது மாகாணத்தில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பஞ்சநிவாரண விஷயத்தில் அதிகசிரத்தை எடுத்து வேலைசெய்து வருவதை நான் மிகவும் பாராட்டுகிறேன். ஆயினும் சேலம் ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள பரிதாபகரமான பஞ்ச நிலைமையைப்பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். சேலம் ஜில்லாவிலே இந்த நடப்பு வருஷ ஆரம்பத்திலே ஒன்றிரண்டு மழை இருந்ததின் காரணத்தினால் சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகள் அவர்களிடத்திலிருந்த பணத்தைக் கொண்டும் இல்லாதவர்கள் கடன் வாங்கியும் தானியங்கள் வாங்கி நிலத்தில் போட்டுவிட்டார்கள். பிற்காலத்தில் மழையில்லாது அடியோடு நஷ்டமடைந்து கஷ்டப்படுகின்றனர். இதுமாத்திரமல்ல. ஒவ்வொரு வருஷமும் இதேவிதமாகத்தான் சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்களென்பதை சர்க்காருக்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்தவேண்டியதில்லை. இப்பொழுது மேட்டூர் தேக்கமானது பூராவும் சேலம் ஜில்லாவில்தான் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த மேட்டூர் தேக்கத்தைக்கட்டுவதற்காக வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய ஒரு அதிர்ஷ்டம் மாத்திரம் சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகளுக்குக்கிடைத்ததேயொழிய இந்த மேட்டூர் தேக்கத்திலிருந்து ஒரு சொட்டு ஜலத்தைக்கூட சேலம் ஜில்லா வாசிகள் அனுபவிக்க காலம் ஏற்படவில்லை. ஏற்கெனவே இருந்த சர்க்கார் நிர்வாகிகள் மேட்டூர் தேக்கத்திலிருந்து சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகள் ஜலத்தை உபயோகப்படுத்துவதற்குத் தகுந்த சிரத்தை எடுத்துப்பரிசோதித்திருந்தால் கட்டாயம் அது நடந்திருக்கும் என்பது என்னுடைய நம்பிக்கை. ஆனால் இப்பொழுது காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கம் ஏற்பட்டதிலிருந்து சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகள் நம்முடைய கஷ்டமானது அடியோடு நிவிர்த்தியாகிவிடும், நமக்கு நல்ல சௌகரியமான காலம் ஏற்பட்டுவிடுமென்ற நம்பிக்கைகொண்டு எதிர்

[Sri V. R. Perumal Chettiyar] [30th March 1939

பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தார் குறிப்பாக கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள், சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகளுடைய பரிதாபகரமான நிலைமையைக்கவனித்து மேட்டூர் ஜலத்தேக்கத்தை சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகள் உபயோகப்படுத்து வதற்குத்தகுந்த முறையில் நிபுணர்களைக்கொண்டு பரிசோதனைசெய்து மேட்டூர் ஜலத்தேக்கத்திலிருந்து ஜலத்தை சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகள் நன்மைக்கு உபயோகப்படுத்துவதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

"சேலம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகளுக்கு அடுத்தப்படியாக கைத்தறி நெசவுத்தொழிலாளர்களுடைய பரிதாபகரமான நிலைமையைப்பற்றி எடுத்துச் சொல்லுகிறேன். சேலம் ஜில்லா கைத்தறி நெசவுத்தொழிலாளர்கள் நிறைந்த ஜில்லா. கைத்தறி நெசவுத்தொழிலாளர்கள் நிலைமை மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமாயிருக்கிறது. சேலம் ஜில்லாவில் மாத்திரம் கைத்தறி நெசவுத்தொழிலாளர்களில்லை. மாகாணம் முழுவதுமிருக்கிறார்கள். இருந்தாலும் சேலம் ஜில்லாவில் அதிகமாயிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்நிய தேச துணிகள் அபரிமிதமாய் இறக்குமதியாவதினாலும் மில்களில் ஏராளமாய் துணிகள் தயாராவதினாலும் அவைகளோடு கைத்தறி நெசவுக்காரர்கள் போட்டி போடமுடியாமல் அநேகர் தொழில் இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். கைத்தறி நெசவுக்காரர்கள் காலை ஆறு மணியிலிருந்து மாலை ஆறு மணிவரையில் வேலைசெய்தாலும் அவர்களுக்கு நாலணாக்கூலி கிடைப்பது கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. இருந்தபோதிலும் அந்தக்கூலிக்குக்கூட தொழில் இல்லாமல் அநேகர் மனைவி மக்களோடு ஊர் ஊராகச்சென்று பிச்சை எடுக்கும் நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கனம் காங்கிரஸ சர்க்கார் அவர்கள், குறிப்பாக கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள், கைத்தறி நெசவுத்தொழிலாளர் விஷயத்தில் சிரத்தை எடுத்து, கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களாவது அல்லது தகுந்த நிபுணர்களைக்கொண்டாவது பரிசீலனை செய்து அவர்களுக்கு என்னென்ன பாதுகாப்பு வேண்டுமோ அதை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொடுத்து அவர்களுடைய பஞ்ச நிலைமையைப்போக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இனிமேல் அவர்களுக்குப்பஞ்ச நிலைமை ஏற்படாமலிருக்குமாறு செய்யக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

"சமீபத்தில் இந்த சபையின் தீர்மானத்திற்கு சாமான் விற்பனை வரி மசோதா ஒன்று வரப்போகிறது. அதில் கைத்தறிகளிலிருந்து தயார் செய்யும் துணி வியாபாரத்திற்கு வரி விதிக்காமல் பாதுகாப்பு அளிப்பதோடு கையால் செய்யும் பாய், பானை பாத்திரங்கள் முதலிய சாமான் வியாபாரத்திற்கும் வரி யில்லாமலிருப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்து குடிசைத் தொழிலுக்குப்பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

* SRI K. SHANMUGAM :—"అధ్యక్షమహాశయా, నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలో రెండు తాలూకాలు తప్ప తక్కిన తాలూకాలన్నియు దుర్భరమగు క్షామముచేత పీడింపబడుచున్నవి. నా నియోజకవర్గములోని వెంకటగిరి, గూడూరు, సూళూరుపేట, రాపూరు ప్రాంతములలోని ప్రజలు త్రాగుటకు సహితము నీరు లేక తహతహలాడుచున్నారు. పైరులు పొర్తిగా ఎండిపోయినవి. రైతులే జీవనాధారములేక కష్టపడుచుండ ఇక కూలీలసంగతి, మా హరిజనులసంగతి ఏమిచెప్పవలెనో వర్ణించుటకు నోరురాకున్నది.

"రైతులు పంటలుపండక తిండిలేక మలమల మాడుచుండ ఈ తరుణములో అచ్చటి జమీందారుగారు శిస్తులు వసూలుచేయుటలో ఏమాత్రమును కనికరము చూపుట లేదని రైతులు ఘోషించుచున్నారు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఆ ప్రాంతములను తనిఖీచేయించి క్షామముచేత బాధపడుచున్న రైతులకు జమీందారుగారివలన రెమిషను యిప్పించి రైతులకుకూలీలకు పనులు కల్పించి క్షామనివారణకు తోడ్పడుదురని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని ప్రార్థించుచు ఈ డిమాండును బలపరచుచున్నాను."

* SRI K. VENKATAPPAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to make only a few suggestions with reference to this Demand. In the administration of famine relief, I believe business considerations play a part. But the trouble comes in when they are stretched too far. The Government, when instituting relief and giving sustained work to the workers, seem to expect a return. Probably it is not altogether wrong to do so. But at the same time, to assign hard work, such as breaking of stones and that too from sunrise to sunset in the scorching sun, to men, women and children, starving and emaciated as they are, seems to me very hard and relentless. Besides, the wage given is so small and so meagre that it is hardly possible to keep body and soul together. So I think that the Committee which has investigated the working of Famine relief would have referred to this subject also and I request Government to introduce some human element in the administration of famine relief.

"Another thing that I want to mention is this: the metal that is collected by the breaking of stones is put in a heap and for the most part left at the spot. As carting of metal to distant places involves a pretty good sum of money, it is not considered worth while to do so. I would therefore suggest that the energy that is used up in this hard business of breaking of stones may be directed to be spent on some cottage industry. Hand-spinning is the best, and spinning wheels may be supplied to workers so that they may sit in their houses under the shade of their own roofs and the energies now spent on a useless object may be turned to good account. I fear sufficient attention has not been paid to the spinning wheel as a cottage industry in spite of the fact that Mahatmaji has been advocating it and preaching it for the last nearly twenty years. Now that the Congress Government is in power I hope the Government will take this matter into serious consideration and introduce the reform. 6. P.

" Another subject which I wish to refer to is that in the Guntur district, the upland taluks of Palnad and Penukonda and parts of Ongole are on the borders of the Ceded districts and suffer from similar disadvantages, viz., scarcity of rain, famine and distress. The river Kistna runs by the side of Palnad and the river Gundlakamma flows through Penukonda; yet, the people of these taluks derive little or no advantage from their waters. It is no doubt true that the lands are on a high level and so the usual method of irrigation might not be possible. But is it not possible to have these lands irrigated by installing pumping machinery? I request that this may be attempted and relief given to the ryots. With these few words I support the Demand."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, it may perhaps appear ridiculous that a man of my size (Laughter) should stand up to speak on a Demand which concerns the administration of

[Sri. K. Varadachari] [30th March 193

famine relief. (Renewed laughter.) Probably it is on that account, Sir, that I was not able to catch your eye for a long time. (Laughter.) Sir, in these circumstances if I have ventured to speak a few words, it is only to bring to the notice of the Government a very important aspect connected with the administration of famine relief in zamindari areas. Under the system now in vogue, the zamindari areas are not treated on the same footing as the ryotwari areas presumably on the ground that these areas do not contribute any large portion of the income that is derived by the Government by way of land revenue. But I would only submit in that connexion that the fault is not that of the people that reside in these areas if the Government have not been getting the revenue that they deserve to get from them. Under a very unjust system that has been the subject-matter of a lot of criticism and comment in this House for a sufficiently long time in connexion with the discussion of the Report of the Estates Land Act Committee, we have been giving up that revenue. That is absolutely no reason for making the individious distinction between us and the ryotwari areas. Under the present system Sir, if famine conditions prevail in any zamindari area, the only way in which the sufferers can get relief is by getting loans from the proprietors. And how they have been utilizing such loans would be a matter which will be very interesting to investigate if only the Government care to do so. But it is unnecessary for my present purpose to go into it now in view of the fact that we have a popular Government which will not allow this invidious distinction to continue between the people who are rack-rented and stricken with famine and the people in the ryotwari areas I would like to anticipate the recommendations of the Famine Code Revision Committee whose report has not yet been published I am sure one of its recommendations will be that this very welcome change ought to be made in the treatment of zamindari areas and they should be put on a par with the ryotwari areas. The district in which I reside, namely, Chittoor, is adjacent to the admittedly famine areas of the Ceded districts and, on account of that perhaps, sometimes some portions of our district are also affected by famine as was the case this year by the failure of the monsoon. And thinking that we were not sufficiently affected by famine conditions, the old Government, in the year 1912, tacked on to us a few famine-stricken areas of the Cuddapah district namely Madanapalle and Vayalpad. My hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi has made a strong plea for schemes being taken up for granting irrigation facilities in his district. I request that in any such scheme, Vayalpad and Madanapalle should not be left out and that for purposes of famine relief these two taluks should be included though they do not now form part of the Cuddapah district, but form part of Chittoor district for purposes of general administration.

" Reverting to the subject of zamindari areas, Sir, I may say that we have not developed a technique by which we can get relief in times of famine as people in other districts which are periodically visited by famine. For every three years in succession, I am told, Bellary has been given famine relief. How famine occurs there in such a regular manner every three years without a break we have not been able to understand. I have been thinking that the technique which is necessary to develop a situation by which famine relief can be got whether there is famine or not has been perfected and made into an art in Bellary district rather than in other districts. I do not wish to say anything against anybody. But my point is that . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" You are unaware of that technique? "

* SRI K. VARADACHARI :—" Being an unfortunate resident in a zamindari area, I am unaware of that technique. With these few words I support the Demand."

* SRI GOPAVARAM VENKATA REDDI :—" అధ్యక్షా, నా కీదనకు మీరు ఈ డిమాండుపై మాట్లాడుటకు అవకాశమిచ్చినందులకు నా కృతజ్ఞత తెలుపుచున్నాను. మా కర్నూలు జిల్లాలో పోయిన సంవత్సరము విశేషమైన కరువువచ్చి ప్రజలు నానావస్థల పాలైనపుడు గౌ॥ రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారు మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటనము చేసి ప్రజల కష్టములు గ్రహించి వారికి తగుసహాయము చేసినందులకు మా జిల్లా ప్రజల తరఫున వారి నభినందించుచున్నాను. పోయిన సంవత్సరము యీ శాసన సభలో Famine Code విషయము చర్చకు వచ్చినపుడు శాసనసభ్యులు పలువురు Famine Code చాల సంవత్సరముల క్రిందట అప్పటి పరిస్థితుల కనుగుణముగా చేయబడినదనియు, ఇప్పటి పరిస్థితులకు తగినట్లు Famine Code విషయములు సవరించవలసినదని చెప్పినారు. శ్రీ గౌ॥ రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారు విషయములో శ్రద్ధవహించి తక్షణమే ఒక కమిటీ నేర్పరచి రిపోర్టు తయారు చేయించినందులకు శ్రీ గౌ॥ మంత్రిగారిని మరొకసారి అభినందించుచున్నాను. మా కర్నూలు జిల్లాలో ప్రతి సంవత్సరము ఏదో యొక ప్రాంతమందు కఱవువచ్చి ప్రజలు చాలా బాధలు పడుచున్నారు. ఈ సంవత్సరము తిరుగ శిరువెళ్ల, మార్కాపురం తాలూకాలలో కఱవు వచ్చినది. ఈ రీతిగా 20 సంవత్సరములనుండి కఱవులు వచ్చుటవల్ల మా జిల్లా ప్రజలందరును పేదవారైయున్నారు. ఇప్పుడు ప్రతిచోట రైల్లున్నవి, రోడ్లున్నవి, మోటార్లున్నవి, ఓడలున్నవి ప్రక్క దేశములనుండి కావలసిన వస్తు పరికరములు రాగలుగుటకు సౌకర్యములు కూడియు గాయల సీమయందు ప్రజలు కాటకపు బాధలుపడుచుండుట చూడగా ప్రజల ఆర్థికదుస్థితియే కారణమని చెప్పక తప్పదు. ఈ జిల్లాలయందు ఇతర వృత్తులన్నియు నశించినవి. వ్యవసాయమే ముఖ్యమైనది. తరచువచ్చు కాటకములు, ఋణబాధలు, శిస్తు భారములు ప్రజలను యీనాటి దుస్థితికి తెచ్చినవి. నశించిన వృత్తులన్నియు పునరుద్ధారణచేసి కృషీవలుల నభివృద్ధిపరచి ఇతర సౌకర్యములు చేసినగాని యీ జిల్లాలలోని ఆర్థికస్థితి బాగుపడదు. ఆ ప్రాంతములలో పండు ప్రత్తి, వేరుశనగ ఇతర ప్రాంతములకు పోకుండా ఆ జిల్లాలలోనే వాటినుండి తయారగు నూలు, గుడ్డ, నూనె అచటనే తయారుచేయించు ఏర్పాటు చేయవలెను. అంతేకాకుండా నీటి వసతులు గూడా

ఆ జిల్లాలలో యభివృద్ధిచేయవలెను. కర్నూలు జిల్లాలోని నలమల అడవిలో పేపరు తయారుచేయుటకు కావలసిన వస్తువు లచట దొరకును. అవన్నియు ఇప్పుడు నిరర్థకమగుచున్నవి. అక్కడ ఒక పేపరు మిల్లు నేర్పాటుచేయవచ్చును. కృష్ణానది శ్రీశైలక్షేత్రమునకు సమీపముగా నలమల కొండలనుండి ప్రవహించుచున్నది. అచ్చట జలపాతములుకూడా యున్నవి. వానినుండి విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి తయారుచేయించి రాయలసీమలో చాల ప్రదేశములకును, వ్యవసాయదారులకును తక్కువ వెలకు సప్లయిచేయుటకు వీలున్నది. అట్లు చేసినచో చాలవరకు రైతులు బాగుపడగలరు. గృహపరిశ్రమలుకూడా వృద్ధియగును. ముఖ్యముగా ఖద్దరు ఉత్పత్తి నచట వృద్ధిచేయించవలెను. అఖిల భారత చరఖా సంఘముమీదనే కేవలము ఆధారపడియుండకుండా ప్రతి గ్రామములోను సహకార సంఘముద్వారా గృహపరిశ్రమల నేర్పాటుచేసి తగు సహాయము చేయవలెను. అచ్చట తయారైన సరుకు అమ్ముటకు వస్తువిక్రయశాలలను మార్కెటింగు ఉద్యోగుల నేర్పాటుచేయవలెను.

"విక్రయములపై పన్ను వేసినందులకు నేనీ గవర్నమెంటువారి నభినందించుచున్నాను. భూమి శిస్తుకూడా పూర్తిగా తీసివేసి వారికికూడా అమ్మకపు పన్ను వేయవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు రాయలసీమలో పంటలు పండినప్పటికి లేనప్పటికి పన్నులు మాత్రము చెల్లించుట తప్పుటలేదు. ఉద్యోగస్తులు తమ జీతములు నెలాఖరుకు సరిగా రావని పంటలుపండినా పండకపోయినా సరిగానే పండినవని వ్రాయుచు పన్నులు వసూలుచేయుచున్నారు. ఈ అమ్మకపు పన్ను వేసినయెడల రైతు పండినపంటలో తనకు కావలసినది ఉంచుకొని తాను అమ్ము వస్తువులపై పన్నిచ్చుకొనుటకే మాత్రమును సంకోచింపడు. రూపాయకు ఒక దమ్మిడీ పన్నుగాక రూపాయకు ఒక అరణా పన్నైనను యిచ్చుటకు సందేహింపడు. కావున భూమి శిస్తు తొలగించి రైతులకుకూడా అమ్మకపుపన్ను విధించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఇరిగేషన్ ప్రాజెక్టులు, గృహపరిశ్రమలు, తరతరములు సరిచేసినంతమాత్రముచేత అచటి ప్రజల యార్థికస్థితి బాగుపడదు. ప్రస్తుతము పంటలు పండినా లేకపోయినా రైతులు శిస్తులు చెల్లించవలసియున్నది. అప్పులు తీర్చవలెను, వడ్డీలు ఎక్కువగా నున్నవి. అందువల్ల శిస్తులు చెల్లించలేక అప్పులు తీర్చుకోలేక చాల అవస్థలు పడుచున్నారు. గ్రామ గ్రామములకు సహకారసంఘములు స్థాపించి తక్కువ వడ్డీతో రైతులకు అప్పులిప్పించవలెను. ఇప్పుడు షావుకార్లలో దుర్బుద్ధి జనించినది. ఋణ హాయచట్టము వచ్చినతరువాత నెలకు రూపాయకు దమ్మిడీకంటె ఎక్కువ వడ్డీ చెల్లని రూపాయ వడ్డీతోగాని తదితర ఎక్కువ వడ్డీతోగాని షావుకారి లెక్కచేసి 8 ాల వడ్డీని తాను అప్పునిచ్చు మొత్తమునుండి ముందుగా పట్టుకొని రైతును బాధించుచున్నాడు. దీనివల్ల రైతులు బాధపడుచున్నారు. కావున సహకారసంఘము ప్రతి గ్రామమందును స్థాపించినచో తక్కువ వడ్డీకి ప్రజలకు అప్పులిచ్చుటకు వీలుండును. ఈ విధముల సౌకర్యములు చేసిననే తప్ప ఈ జిల్లాలలో కాటకపు బాధలు తగ్గి ప్రజలు సౌఖ్యపడరని మనవిచేయుచున్నాను."

* **Sri R. MARUTHAI** :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, காங்கிரஸ்க்கார் ஹரிஜனங்களை முன்னேற்ற விஷயத்தில் செய்துவரும் நன்மைக்க எனது மனமார்ந்த வந்தனத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். ற்றையதினம் கனம் M. C. ராஜா அவர்கள் லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண் ஹரிஜனங்கள் கல்விக்காகப்போதுமான பணம் ஒதுக்கப்படவில்லை

என்று சொன்னார்கள். அப்படி ஒதுக்கப்படவில்லை என்றாலுங்கூட பல ஜில்லா போர்டு பஞ்சாயத்துப் போர்டு முனிசிப்பாலிட்டிகளில் அநேகம் பணங்கள் ஒதுக்கி ஹரிஜனங்கள் கல்வி விஷயத்தில் உதவிசெய்துவருகி றார்கள். இதற்குமுன்னிருந்த கவர்ன்மெண்டு காலத்தில் உதவிசெய் ததைவிட ஜாஸ்தியாக ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் உதவிசெய்து கொண்டுவருகிறது. லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டிலிருந்து உதவிசெய்யவேண்டு மென்பதைக் கூடியசீக்கிரத்தில் எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்பது என்னுடைய கருத்து. எந்தெந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டிலிருந்து ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு எந் தெந்தக்காரியங்கள் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அந்தக்காரியங்களைச்செய்து நிறை வேற்றிக்கொண்டுவந்தால் லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டிலிருந்து உதவி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்பது அவசியமில்லை. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கென்று லேபர் டிபார்ட் மெண்டு தனியாக இருக்கவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை என்று தெரிவித் துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“ கனம் M. C. ராஜா அவர்கள் ஹரிஜனங்கள் என்ற பேரைக் குறிப்பிட்டுச்சொன்னார். 1931–32-ம் வருஷத்தில் பூனா பாக்ட் உண்டான சமயத்தில் அந்த தீர்மானத்தில் அவர் ஒப்புக்கொண்டு கையெழுத்துப் போட்டிருக்கிறார். அதோடு அவர் செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லா ஹரிஜன சேவக் சங்க சென்டரல் போர்டில் ஒரு மெம்பராக இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார். ஆகையினாலே அவர் சொன்ன குற்றச்சாட்டிற்கு இந்த காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் யாதொரு பாத்திரருமாகமாட்டார்களென்பதைச்சொல்ல வேண்டியது அவசியம். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சில குறைகளிருக்கலாம். அவர் களுக்குக் கிராமங்களிலிருக்கும் தர்க்காஸ்து நிலங்களைக்கொடுத்து உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“ முனிசிப்பாலிட்டிகளிலும் பஞ்சாயத்துப்போர்டுகளிலும் வாட்டர் டாப் (water tap) வைக்கிறதில் ஹரிஜனங்களிருக்கப்பட்ட சேரிகளுக்கு வேண்டியதை வைக்கிறது கிடையாது. சேர்மன், கவுன்சிலர்களைக்கேட்டால் குழாய் வைக்க உத்திரவு கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். ஹரிஜன சேரிகளுக்குக குழாய் வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று தீர்மானம் நிறை வேற்றினால் ஜாதி ஹிந்து மெம்பர்கள் அவர்கள் தெருவுக்கு வைத்துக் கொண்டு ஹரிஜனங்கள் வசிக்கும் சேரிகளுக்கு வைக்கிறது கிடையாது. இதைக்கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கவனத்துக்குக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன்.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—“ கனம் ராஜா அவர்களுமில்லை. அந்த டிமாண்டும் இப்பொழுது இங்கே விவாதிக்கப் படவில்லை.”

* SRI R. MARUTHAI :—“ அப்படியானால் இந்த டிமாண்டு விஷய மாய் பேசுகிறேன். திருச்சினாப்பள்ளி ஜில்லாவில் பருவ மழையில்லாமல நெல் சரியாக விளையவில்லை. முதலாளிகள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு இதுவரை கொடுத்துவந்தபடி அவர்களுக்குக்கொடுக்கவேண்டிய கூலி நெல் வைக் கல்போர் இவைகளைக் கொண்டுபோய்விட்டார்கள். இதை நான் கண்கூடாகப் பார்த்திருக்கிறேன்.

“ எங்கள் ஏழை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் குடிக்கத்தண்ணீர் இல்லை, வயிற்றுக்குக் கஞ்சியில்லை, என்று நான் தாழ்மையாகத்தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். கோயமுத்தூர், சேலம், பல்லாரி முதலிய ஜில்லாக்களில் பஞ்சமிருக்கிறதாகத் தெரிகிறது. இருந்தாலும் ஏழைகளுடைய கஷ்டத்தை நிவிர்த்திக்க காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு பாடுபட்டுக்கொண்டுவருகிறது என்பது தெரியும். நம்முடைய துரதிர்ஷ்டம் மழையில்லாமல் போய்விட் டது. இது நல்லதுக்கோ கெடுதலுக்கோ என்று எனக்குத் தெரியாது. ஒரு நன்மை செய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்கு ஒரு கெடுதல் சம்ப விக்கத்தான் செய்யும். மென்மேலும் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்ற வேலையில் ஈடுபடவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய கடமை என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்

[Sri R. Maruthai] [30th March 1939

" **Sales Tax** (சேல்ஸ் டாக்ஸ்) போடப்போகிறதைப்பற்றிச்சொல்லுகிறேன். இவ்வளவுகாலமாக பணக்காரர்கள் ஒரு தம்பிடிகூட சர்க்காருக்குக்கொடுக்காமலிருந்துவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். நாங்கள் ஏழைகள் அப்படியிருந்தும் எங்கள் கல்வி முதலியவற்றிற்கு நாங்கள் கொடுக்கும் கலால் பணத்திலிருந்துதான் நீங்கள் **maintain** பண்ணிக்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறீர்கள். அதை நிறுத்திவிட்டு பணக்காரர்கள் பணத்தைக் கொடுத்துச் சரிப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளக்கூடாதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

*Sri A. R. A. S. DURAISWAMI NADAR :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, எங்களுடைய திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் சென்ற இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களாக சரியான பருவ மழையில்லாத காரணத்தினால் எல்லாக் குளங்களிலும் சரியான தண்ணீரில்லாது நெற்பயிர்கள் எல்லாம் சரியான பலன் கொடுக்காது அங்கே தீவாகி விட்டது. சென்ற வருஷத்திலும் அதற்கு முந்தின வருஷத்திலும் இந்த வருஷத்திலும் நாங்கள் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக்கண்டுபேசி விவசாயிகளுக்குப் போதுமான அளவு வரியைக் குறைத்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டோம். விவசாயிகளுக்குச் சரியான பலன் கிடைக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் இந்த வரியைக் குறைத்துக் கொடுக்கிறதில்கூட நஞ்சை விவசாயஞ் செய்கிறவர்களுக்குத்தான வரிக்குறைவிருக்கிறதேயொழிய புஞ்சை விவசாயம் செய்கிறவர்களுக்கு எவ்வித வரிக்குறைவுங் கிடையாது. இந்த வருஷத்தில் மழை இல்லாததினால் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் பஞ்ச நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கிராம ஜனங்களெல்லாம் தங்களுக்கு உணவில்லாமல், எவ்வித வேலையுமில்லாமல், தங்களுடைய புஞ்சைகள் நஞ்சைகள் தீவாகிவிட்ட காரணத்தினால் எங்குபார்ததாலும் பட்டணங்களில் குடியேறி இரண்டணா ஒரு அணாகூலி வேலை கிடைக்கிறதா என்று தேடிக்கொண்டு அலைகிறார்கள். இங்கே பட்டணத்தில்கூட இதைக் கவனிக்கலாம். ஆயிரககணக்கான குடும்பத்தினர் கிராமங்களிலிருந்து வந்து இங்கே தெருக்களில திரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதே மாதிரியாகத்தான் தூத்துக்குடியிலும் திருநெல்வேலியிலும் மற்றும் முக்கியமான ஊர்களிலும் கிராம ஜனங்கள் குடியேறி உணவில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையினால் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் வரியைக் குறைத்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இந்த வருஷம் சரியானபடி மழை இல்லை. இப்பொழுது ஜில்லா போர்டில்கூட இது விஷயமாகத தீர்மானம் நிறைவேற்றிக் கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு அனுப்பி இருக்கிறார்கள். அதைச் சரியானபடி கவனித்து வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். புஞ்சை நிலங்களுக்கும் சரியாய் வரிஜா செய்வதற்கான ஏற்பாடு செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். அத்துடன் நான் பிரதிநிதியாக இருக்கப்பட்ட ஸ்ரீவைகுண்டம், திருச்செந்தூர் தாலூகாக்களிலும், நாங்குனேரி தாலூக்காவிலும் ஜாஸ்தியாக பனைமரங்கள் லட்சக்கணக்காக உண்டு. இந்த மரங்களுக்குத் தீர்வை அநியாயமாக ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை நான் பலமுறை மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன். ஆனால் இதுவரையில் அதற்கு எவ்வித பரிகாரமுங் கிடைக்கவில்லை. பக்கத்திலே இருக்கப்பட்ட தென்னை மரங்களில் அதிகமாக விளைவு கிடைத்தபோதிலும், மற்றும் பலவேறு விருக்ஷங்களிலிருந்து அதிகமான பலன் கிடைத்தபோதிலும், அந்த தென்னை முதலிய விருக்ஷங்களை உடையவர்களுக்கு அவைகள் பட்டா நிலங்களில் இருக்கப்பட்ட மரங்களாயிருந்தால் தீர்வை ஏற்படுத்தப்படவில்லை. துரதிர்ஷ்ட வசத்தினால் யாதொரு காரணமுமில்லாமல் முற்காலத்தில் பனைகளுக்குத் தீர்வை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்ற காரணத்தினால் பட்டா நிலங்களிலுள்ள பனை மரங்களுக்குத் தீர்வை வசூலிக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்ற கொள்கையிருக்கிறது. இது மிகவும் அநியாயமான வரி. பனைகளிருக்கும் நிலத்துக்கு மற்றும் பனைகளில்லாத நிலத்துக்கொத்த தீர்வை வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது. பனைகள் ஆயிரக்கணக்காக இருந்தால் அதற்குப் பிரத்தியேக

மாக பனைத்தீர்வை வசூலிக்கிறார்கள். பனைநிற்கிற நிலங்களில் வேறு எவ்வித விவசாயமும் செய்ய லாயக்கில்லை. பனை வேர்கள் அடிபட்டுப் பயிர்கள் உருப்படாது. ஆகையினால் எந்த விவசாயமும் செய்ய முடியாது. பனை இல்லாத நிலத்திற்கு என்ன தீர்வையோ அந்தத் தீர்வையை பனைகளிருக்கிற நிலத்திற்கும் விதிக்கும்படியாய் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“ஒரு ஏக்கராவில் இருநூறு பனைகளிருந்தால் எட்டு அல்லது பத்து ரூபாய் தீர்வையாகக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களிடத்தில் பனைக்கு இவ்வளவு தீர்வை கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்கு பனையிலிருந்து என்னவரும்படி கிடைக்கிறதென்ற விஷயமாய் புள்ளி விவரம் ஏதாவது இருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்டபோது அவர்கள் இல்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். நான் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குச் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு பனையிலிருந்து நாலணாவுக்கு மேல் எட்டணா வரையில் வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு வருமானம் கிடைக்கும். இந்த வருமானம் கிடைக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் பனை ஏறும் ஒரு தொழிலாளி ஏழு, எட்டு மாதம் வேலை செய்யவேண்டும். ஒரு தொழிலாளி இந்த ஆறு, ஏழு அல்லது எட்டு மாதத்தில் ஐம்பது பனை ஏறமுடியும். இந்தவிதமாய்ப் பார்த்தால் இருபத்தைந்து ரூபாய் வருமானம் கிடைக்கும். இந்த ஏழு, எட்டு மாதமும் அவனுடைய பெண்டு பிள்ளைகளும் இதில் வேலை செய்தால்தான் இந்த இருபத்தைந்து ரூபாய் வருமானம் கிடைக்கும். அப்படியிருந்துங்கூட ஒருபனை ஒன்றுக்கு முக்காலணா வீதம் தீர்வை ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறது. முக்காலணா தீர்வை விதித்திருப்பது அநியாயமானது. சென்ற பல ஆண்டுகளாக எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் சரியான மழை இல்லாததினால் அநேக ஆயிரக்கணக்கான பனைகள் பட்டுப்போய்விட்டன. சர்க்காரில் பனை இருந்தாலும் சரி, பட்டுப் போய்விட்டாலும் சரி, சாஸ்வதத்தீர்வை என்று வெகுகாலத்திற்கு முன் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதாம். ஆகையினால் பனைத்தீர்வை கொடுத்துத் தீரவேண்டுமென்று இருக்கிறது. ஒருவன் ஒரு நிலத்தில் பனையை வெட்டிவிட்டு வேறு பயிர் செய்தாலும், பனைத் தீர்வை கட்டிக்கொண்டு வரவேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. இது சாஸ்வதமாக ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது மிகவும் அநியாயம். இதை எடுத்து விடவேண்டுமென்று ஜனங்கள் பலவித மாஜர்கள் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு அனுப்பினார்கள். அதன்பேரில் இன்னும் யாதொரு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களாக மழை இல்லாக் காரணத்தினால் ஆயிரக்கணக்கான பனைகள் பட்டுப்போய்விட்டன. வரும்படி யாதொன்றுங் கிடைக்காத நிலைமையிலிருந்துங்கூட இன்னும் இந்தப்பனைகளுக்கென்று தீர்வை வசூல் செய்யப்பட்டு வருகிறது. ஜனங்கள் எவ்வித வேலையுமில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கும் இந்த சமயத்தில் சர்க்காருக்குத் தீர்வை அநியாயமாய் கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது என்பது மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமான நிலைமை ஜனங்களுக்கு நியாயமாய் எவ்வளவு தீர்வை வஜா செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு தீர்வையை வஜா செய்ய வேண்டும் வரும்படி கிடைக்காததினால் நியாயமாய் கொடுக்கவேண்டிய வஜாவைக் (remission) கொடுத்துக் காப்பாற்றுவதோடு பனை பட்டுப்போன காரணத்தினால் வேலையில்லாமல் திண்டாடிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறதினால் அவர்களுக்கேற்ற வேலை கொடுத்தால்தான், இந்தக் கிராமவாசிகள் பட்டணங்களுக்கு வந்து பட்டணங்களில் முன்பு வேலை செய்துகொண்டிருந்த தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு இப்பொழுது கூலிகிடைக்காமல் செய்கின்ற நிலைமை ஏற்படாதபடி, கிராமங்களில் கிராமவாசிகளுக்குச்—சொற்ப சம்பளம் ஒரு அணா சம்பளத்திற்கு வேலை கிடைத்தாலும் செய்யத் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்களாகையினால்—நூல் நூற்கும் வேலைபோன்ற குடிசைத் தொழில் வேலை கிடைக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்தால்தான், இந்தக் கஷ்டம் நிவிர்த்தியாகும். இந்த வருஷத்தில் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பஞ்சத்தினால் ஜனங்கள் பட்டினி கிடந்து சாகாதபடி பார்க்கவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய பொறுப்பு. இத

ற்கு முன் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு மற்ற இடங்களுக்குப் போய் குடியேறுவதற்கு சௌகரியமிருந்தது. இப்பொழுது அப்படிப்பட்ட எவ்வித சௌகரியமுமில்லை. முற்காலத்தில் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து இலங்கைத் தீவுக்கு கூலிவேலைக்குச் சென்றார்கள். பர்மாவுக்குக் கூலிவேலைக்குச் சென்றார்கள் இப்பொழுது இரண்டுமாதத்திற்கு முன் தென்னாட்டு ஜனங்கள் அவ்விடங்களுக்குப் போகமுடியாதபடி சட்ட திட்டங்களை ஏற்படுத்திக் கொண்டு அந்த ஜனங்கள் போகாதபடித் தடுத்து விட்டதினால் கூலிவேலைக்குப் போக மார்க்கமில்லை. தங்கள் ஊர்களிலோ அவர்களுக்கு வேலை இல்லை. அநியாயமாய் தீர்வை கொடுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டு மிகவும் தாழ்ந்த நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் இதை உடனே கவனித்து வேண்டிய உதவி செய்யவேண்டும். பஞ்சம் பட்டுப் போன இடங்களில் தீர்வையை வசூலிக்காதிருக்கவேண்டும் நிலத்திற்குரிய தீர்வையை மாத்திரம் வசூல் செய்யவேண்டும். பஞ்சம் பட்டுப் போய் விட்டதனால் பஞ்ச மாசூல் வரும்படி இல்லாததினால் பஞ்சத் தீர்வையை ரத்துச் செய்து ஜனங்களைக் காப்பாற்றும் முயற்சியை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளும்படியாய நான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக் கொண்டு இந்தப் பஞ்சநிவாரணத்திற்காக அவர்கள் கோரியிருக்கும் தொகையை நான் முழுமனதுடன் ஆமோதிக்கிறேன்."

n. * THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, famine is not confined to the Ceded districts alone. Last year we had to face a famine crisis in the Ceded districts and Providence has helped us this year by giving plenty of rain in that area. Still it has been pointed out that in some parts of the Kurnool district and in some other areas there is trouble. When we were feeling that this year might be a good year, famine visited an area which was not usually subject to it. Coimbatore district and part of Salem also were seriously affected. When complaints came from Coimbatore, we could not believe them at first; and we were still hoping that having regard to the geographical position of the district as a whole and also the affected areas with the Cauvery on the one side and the Bhavani on the other and hills all round, we might get over the famine conditions. We were slow to recognize the area as a famine area; we were slow to start even test works and we were slow to convert the test works into relief works, hoping that conditions might change. But they did not. Whatever happened in the Ceded districts when acute famine overtook them, repeated itself in the Coimbatore district. People had to sell their cattle for a song as it were and they had to leave the areas because they had no work. So no one in this House should be under the impression that the Ceded districts alone constitute a famine area. There are some parts of other districts, the upland portions, which are equally subject to such conditions, though not perhaps to the same degree.

" Famine has become a very huge problem for us, particularly after we have taken up office and when the country is co-operating with us to the fullest extent. If Providence had not turned against us, we would not have been faced with such a serious trouble on account of famine. Famine does not necessarily come

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on account of failure of rain alone. It has been demonstrated that there can be serious famine on account of too much rain or floods and cyclone, on account of the fact that everything which is ready for reaping and removing to the granary is washed away by flood or cyclone. It is a very peculiar year in which the Government have been put to test. Not only the Government but the Members of this House also have been put to test and through them the whole country which sent them here has been put to test. Questions were asked: 'How would this Government stand this trial; how would the people be satisfied by this Government which is called a people's Government? What relief can this Government give to the people under these conditions?' I do not wish to take hon. Members through the whole story of the relief that has been given. It was repeated at an earlier stage in this session during the Budget discussion. We never doubted that we would be able to withstand this trial. We never doubted that the people and their representatives in this House of all parties and groups would reconcile themselves to the situation.

"The famine policy of the Government may be stated briefly first with reference to the relief side of the measures and secondly with reference to the preventive measures proposed to be adopted. As the hon. Member Mr. Koti Reddi said, famines have been visiting the country very frequently and lakhs and lakhs have been spent from time to time and if we total the whole amount, it will come to crores. Having regard to the past history and the suffering of the people, the Government have enunciated a policy that preventive measures should be undertaken as quickly as possible. With regard to the extent and nature of the relief given either in the Ceded districts where the crops failed on account of drought or in the northern districts where famine came on account of floods and cyclone, it is clearly shown that the relief was not intended 7-1 merely to prevent death and starvation, which was the old policy. p.m. Bare sustenance to keep the body and the soul together was at one time considered sufficient. The Famine Code has not been revised formally until now. Ever since we took up office, our policy has been not merely to give just enough to keep life going, but also to give enough, to give help as far as possible. We cannot pretend, Sir, to have given adequate relief to all sufferers in proper time. It is generally not possible to do any such thing. But all that is humanly possible has been done.

"Coming to the policy of adopting preventive measures, what are the preventive measures that can be adopted? That is a technical matter to a great extent. Even before the Committee was appointed, in the last Budget discussion I gave a description of the potentiality of the Ceded districts which had been condemned as perpetually famine-ridden areas. It was only an accident that their old position was lost, and all the potentiality was there and everything could be revived—that is what I said.

When I said that, I must admit that I was talking as a man of commonsense, without knowing the technical side of it. The description was such that many wondered whether it was true and whether anything could be expected from those districts. The first step we took was the appointment of a Committee. In appointing that Committee, Sir, we took care to see that all departmental heads of this Government were put in as members of the Committee. There were representatives from this House and also from the other House on it; there were representatives on it from outside the Legislature as well. The Committee has submitted its report; it is under examination. I very much wish that it could have been published earlier; but it was not possible. It is being examined, and I may say, generally speaking, that the recommendations of the Committee are such as would certainly give relief to the people of the affected areas if only their recommendations are given effect to. What are the measures that can give relief in regard to famine? If there was rain in season and if the lands yielded, there would be no talk of famine at all. When the rains fail, what can be substituted? In the earliest times, before all the present-day science in the various departments had advanced to the present stage, they had the good sense to see that there were natural methods that could be employed to prevent famine conditions. To those who read either in poetry or in prose the history of those days and the Government of those days, the works done in those days to prevent famine were sufficient to convince anyone. Look at the tanks that had been dug and maintained in those days, the magnitude of the tanks, the channels that were dug from the rivers connecting the tanks; and once water was drawn into the nearest of the tanks, that water was connected with another tank lower down: all these should convince anyone of the magnitude of the work that had been done in those days. It is a matter for great regret that the tanks have been filled up, the channels have been silted up and the river water has been emptying itself into the sea. Having stepped into the shoes of the old Government, we are still trying to establish ourselves. While the water goes down to the sea, we examine for ourselves our Irrigation Cess Acts, our Water-Cess Acts, our water rates, water distribution, and the rules and regulations that we are attempting to put into force to-day. So, the first essential thing that we have to do is to see that the old tanks are restored, the old channels are repaired and the water from the rivers is diverted into the old tanks. The second thing is to have new reservoirs wherever possible with a view to store the water there, so that that would be helpful for cultivation when the rain fails. All this I referred to last time, Sir; but to-day, I am glad to tell the hon. Members of this House that whatever I have stated now about the irrigation works that should be undertaken, has been supported by the Committee.

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"On this matter, before I go to the industrialization portion, I may refer to the two projects that have been referred to in the discussions here—the Tungabhadra project and the Pennar-Kumudavati project. The Pennar-Kumudavati project is a small one; but though small, it is from this that water was supplied to the very big tanks one below the other, as it were, in that particular area. As regards the Pennar-Kumudavati project, having regard to the conditions in the area and the sufferings of the people, as a special case, the Hon. the Prime Minister included it under Part II schemes; but almost all the Part II schemes had to be abandoned on account of distress in the South and in the North and general famine conditions. The Hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan has told you something about the Tungabhadra project. I cannot tell you all about the Tungabhadra project. Those who were not in the know of things could not understand. The other day, in the Upper House, without knowing exactly what happened and how it could be made a success, there was an attack on the policy of the Government with regard to the Tungabhadra project, because that was not included in the Budget as it was framed finally. Such a remarkable achievement, it was; I cannot tell you the details of the way in which matters were managed to bring about this agreement between the Hyderabad Government and this Government. If Madras is suffering to-day with regard to irrigation projects, it is because in the past matters were not properly managed whenever it was a common matter between the Madras Government on the one side and an Indian State on the other side. Whether it was the Mysore State or whether it was the Travancore State or the Hyderabad State, it meant no difference. And hon. Members perhaps do not remember that there are certain rules and restrictions even under this new dispensation of the Government of India Act, when there is a dispute between this Government and any other State with regard to water, as to how it should be managed. So, I shall say to those who do not know about the Tungabhadra project, this much: that the Prime Minister, the Hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan and the other Members were responsible for the complete success of the agreement to the extent to which it has been achieved. Hon. Members may rest assured that it is an accomplished fact to-day. They should not be carried away by the fact that the project has not been included in the Budget. Similarly, the Pennar-Kumudavati project; though small, it is a very valuable project by itself; and so far as the Government are concerned, on these two projects, they have taken a decisive step without waiting for the Committee's report or their recommendations.

"Then about industrialization, Sir, I am glad to tell the hon. Members of this House that the Committee that was appointed for suggesting relief measures and for making necessary proposals to give relief by way of prevention, they have done their best; and

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when you come to discuss their proposals one after another, you will be satisfied that they have given very valuable recommendations and suggestions which when put into operation, I have not the slightest doubt, will confirm the picture that I gave in the last Budget session.

" The Tungabhadra project is not merely an irrigation project; there is an electricity project also in that; and we have to see how that electricity could be utilized for industrial purposes and how that could be made helpful to both cottage industries and the other larger industries. The Committee have not made vague proposals, but they have made definite proposals. And those proposals are being examined; they are not final; and that is why I am not now free to place them item by item before the hon. Members of this House. If this project becomes an accomplished fact, the districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur would be quite different districts altogether in a few years' time, if only they are organized industrially as well as agriculturally.

" The hon. Mr. Koti Reddi was speaking about the black cotton soil and the requirements for irrigating such soil. Sir, this project had been held up in the past on the ground that the quality of the black cotton soil might deteriorate with Tungabhadra water. But, it has been certified by experts that the Tungabhadra water is the best water and that there would be no trouble at all about it for irrigation purposes even in the black cotton soil.

" Now, about the site for the Tungabhadra project, Sir, probably many of you have not seen it. It is between two hills; one hill is on the side of the Nizam's territory and the other is on our side. Some of you may have known the fact that this is not the first time when an attempt is being made to put up a dam there. It was attempted even before the British Government was established in this country. In fact there are anicuts of the pre-British period on the Tungabhadra; there are canals of the pre-British period—six or seven canals known as the Royal Canals—flowing through the area. The whole of the Hampi area which is a deserted piece of land to-day, with all the temples remaining intact and fresh is on the bank of the Tungabhadra. I think there are roughly about 12,000 acres of land which are being irrigated by those six or seven canals from the Tungabhadra. As regards the quality of the water, not even the waters of the Cauvery, Godavari or Kistna would be equal to Tungabhadra water, according to the opinion of experts. If only one goes and sees the cultivation of sugarcane and other crops which are grown under those canals, he will be convinced of potentialities of the river. That is why, Sir, the spot has been selected in that particular place; and when it is accomplished I have not the slightest doubt that it will give great relief to a great part of the Province.

But, as has been remarked already, the whole project could not be undertaken now, immediately, because it is estimated at about 13 crores. So, the Chief Engineer suggested that we might go step by step and that as a first step we might have about four lakhs of acres only instead of one million acres. It is in this respect that the whole of the original area is not coming under the first scheme. But, when electricity is generated there, that would also help the erection of spinning mills. The question was approached in a very intelligent manner, because all the departmental heads were on that committee and they put their heart and soul into the whole matter and made their proposals. If the Committee's proposals are carried out after they are finally scrutinized by the Government, the portion of the country comprising these four districts will become industrially quite prosperous.

"During the last Budget session I referred to the mineral resources of these districts. They are confirmed in the report and the committee have also made very valuable suggestions about the erection of spinning mills in certain areas. They have not confined themselves to the larger schemes like spinning mills in that area where a lot of raw material like cotton is produced, ginned and exported so far; they have also taken into consideration schemes for cottage industries, spinning and weaving. They have not ignored or kept them in the background. On the other hand, next to agriculture, the weaving industry is the thing that has to be looked after by our Government and by all of you.

"In regard to hand spinning, I may say that I have seen several spinning centres in all parts of the world and also weaving centres in very advanced stages; and whenever I had occasion to visit them I was looking back to the Ceded districts areas, the Coimbatore-Salem areas and the Guntur-Nellore areas, where cotton could be grown and developed and which areas could have been converted into other industrial centres like Manchester and Lancashire, though not with machinery, at least with hand spinning and hand weaving. Everything should have been in a perfect condition in our country if only proper attention has been paid to it. It is of course now all a matter of old history, as we know how our spinning and weaving industries have been ruined. I do not wish to refer to that history now and it is not necessary also to refer to that at present. I am anxious at this stage not to indulge in rhetoric over these matters, because the first stage in regard to the matter is now over, namely, the stage of appointing a committee of experts and others interested in the whole business; and they have submitted their report and it is now being examined by the Government. The Government have now reached an anxious stage—not the stage of talking, but the stage of translating them into action. The Hon. the Prime Minister and his Colleagues will be hard put to it when they are called upon to carry out the

recommendations, even as they stand to-day, subject to the revision that might have to be made by the Government. So, Sir, we are anxiously considering the matter and so we cannot say much at present in regard to the matter.

" One other thing I wish to refer to in this connexion. Though I did not see the thing myself, I understand that silkworn could be reared on the castor plant and thus sericulture could be developed. In this connexion I may tell you a small story about sericulture. In the Upper Godavari area, there is a village in Nugur taluk which I recently visited. I believe it was about midnight when we reached the place; that place was noted for wild animals and hillmen. When I actually went there I was struck at what I saw there. The Nugur taluk was once in the Central Provinces area and it came to us by some arrangement. That taluk is a perfect taluk, as good as Polavaram which is near Rajahmundry—even better I should say. We went to the farthest end —almost the border of the Central Provinces area. Two of the hon. Members of this House were also present along with me at the time. We were told that there was hand spinning and hand
45 weaving of silk there. We went to the house of a man with the
n. Agent, an I.C.S. officer. What did we see there. There had been more than ten families some years ago engaged in spinning and weaving; the spinning was done by the womenfolk and the weaving was done by the men. There had been only two people surviving Six months before the date of our arrival there, one man abandoned it because he could not get capital, which was only a hundred rupees. The other man lingered on for some time and only just a few days before we went there, he too abandoned his loom and went off to Puri to earn his livelihood. All the materials were there but he abandoned them and went to Puri to earn 4 annas or so per day. We asked people there about the whole thing. One of the men wanted to show how spinning is done but he did not succeed, because he had to do it on his thighs which were hairy. He explained that it was the business of his wife and then that lady came and she showed to us how she was spinning, and the weaving was done by him. He wanted only a hundred rupees and with that he would be able to weave cloth. There were one or two persons who were advancing money to him for some time and after sometime they too gave it up. The result was that the looms were abandoned and the industry was given up. With the capital of hundred rupees, he could produce good cloth worth more than Rs. 150 and the wages he could get out of this was only 4 annas per day, with which he maintained his family consisting of himself, his wife and two children. That is how he could get on in his profession in the cottage. There was also another man who had given up the loom. Whence were these people getting the silk worms? About twenty miles away, the hillmen were rearing the worms and they were supplying the worms to them.

I am narrating this story to you to show how these industries were flourishing at one time and how and why they died.

"When the industry which was giving a reasonable amount for the maintenance of the families had all perished, what is the logic in our talking of machines, the millionaires and the mills? It is not a mad man that started the spinning and weaving business in our country. It is not a mad man who at the time he went to jail in Yerrawada said that he wanted nothing more than khaddar for the economic salvation of the country. He is not a mad man who says even to-day that khaddar is all important to cure the economic ills of the country. It is the same man who emphasises the importance of Hindi about which there has been so much uproar."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We have got only ten minutes more."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I think that this story would be finished within ten minutes and I shall not require any more time.

"This industry, though it is a very small business, is a sacred business. I remembered the condition of the weavers of that village and when I came to this place I told the Hon. Premier and the Hon. the Minister for Industries about their condition and we managed to send two hundred rupees through the Assistant Agent of Bhadrachalam to be given to those two people and to get the work done. That work is going on and we would get the cloths here and show them to hon. Members of this House and show how for want of such small capital this industry is languishing. So far we have killed our industries, we have killed our professions and we have killed agriculture. I do not really blame the previous Governments; but I only blame the leadership and I blame the educated people. What is the good of education if you cannot understand what your country was and what your country should be hereafter and how you should develop your country? I am thinking to-day of the works that are recommended within the four districts or even in the other affected areas. I am pained to see the shower of applications for 15 and 20-rupee jobs generally received from people with high university degrees. I do not wish to say much about the communal distribution of offices for that has been a question discussed over and over again on the floor of the House. There is no question of communal distribution of offices here; I am talking to members of all communities here. I remember just now how a member referred to the fact that nothing was done for the Muslim women but that hon. Member is not here. I could not interrupt him then; but I would like to take him to a place where he can see for himself how Muslim women were earning by spinning even within their own homes and in fact were earning more than the Muslim men. The other day

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I was in Malabar and it was a pleasant sight to see the little Mappilla girls spinning and earning something every day. I admit that this is not done on any very large scale but it will not be extravagant to hope that it may assume larger dimensions in course of time. It is by encouraging this kind of industries that we shall be able to give food and clothing to the very large number of people in our country; it is not by fighting over the distribution of appointments on a communal basis. It is by that means that all people irrespective of race, colour or creed could be helped to earn an honest living. I am submitting to you to-day, Sir, that this Government is very anxious to develop the famine-affected areas of the Ceded districts and also in other districts in the best possible manner, so that both educated and uneducated men and Congressmen also, who of late are showing a partiality for offices and appointments (laughter), may rush to the areas, look into conditions obtaining there and serve the country and help the people to earn their own livelihood. I am hoping that during my lifetime, this land of ours would become a land of gardens before long.

" The crops would be all right up to the last moment but the last showers fail and then the whole crops fail and there is famine. It is a very serious problem as to how famine could be prevented. In the last session, I referred to electro-culture. People would not trust and they began laughing at the claims made by the exponents of that theory. I did not trust it myself though I had taken care to study the literature on the subject. But now, Sir, I am convinced as a result of my own experiments and my own trials on man, woman and animal—there also is another hon. Member who has tried it on trees, Mr. Varadachari—that it is efficacious and it was not a tall claim that was made by the exponents of that theory. I tried to argue with the Hon. the Prime Minister and other Members of the Government to send somebody to Manipuri district in United Provinces to find out whether there is any truth in electro-culture. We sent an officer of ours from the Coimbatore College. He went there, stayed for a short time and he has given it out in his report that he is convinced with regard to all the matters that I have told you; but he was not convinced within the short time that he was there with regard to the actual growing of paddy and other crops. The other day, when I had been to the Coimbatore College, he told me that he had tried it in two places. The Hon. the Premier has sent me this slip and with your permission, I will read it out:—

'But the Premier is an inveterate sceptic who wants mathematical proof before he would spend any money.'

I am submitting this to the House not with a view to get any money from the Finance Minister or from the Government. I am only submitting this to the hon. Member of the House that they should

know the improvements that accrue from the adoption of electro-culture. I would advise hon. Members as the session will be continuing till that date, to attend a meeting that would be addressed by that civilian of the United Provinces, Dr. Nehru. He is coming here at our request now because I could not bring him down here at an earlier date. When he comes here, you had better take him to some places and see what he can do by means of this culture and if you are convinced you can adopt it. All that the Government should do is to do all that is necessary to get convinced and afterwards to extend the hand of help; but the money must be found by the people themselves and they will find it."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again the next day at 3 p.m.

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to starred question No. 1092 asked by Sri Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 30th March 1939, page 976 supra.]

Message.

I am pleased to learn that so many Harijan families feel that they should go back to the faith of their ancestors. Our ancient dharma is the clearest and shortest way to the Divine. If the heads of these families have felt the call and responded without thinking of any wordly profit, it will be a great blessing and event for rejoicing.

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